

App

# THE *Country* GUIDE

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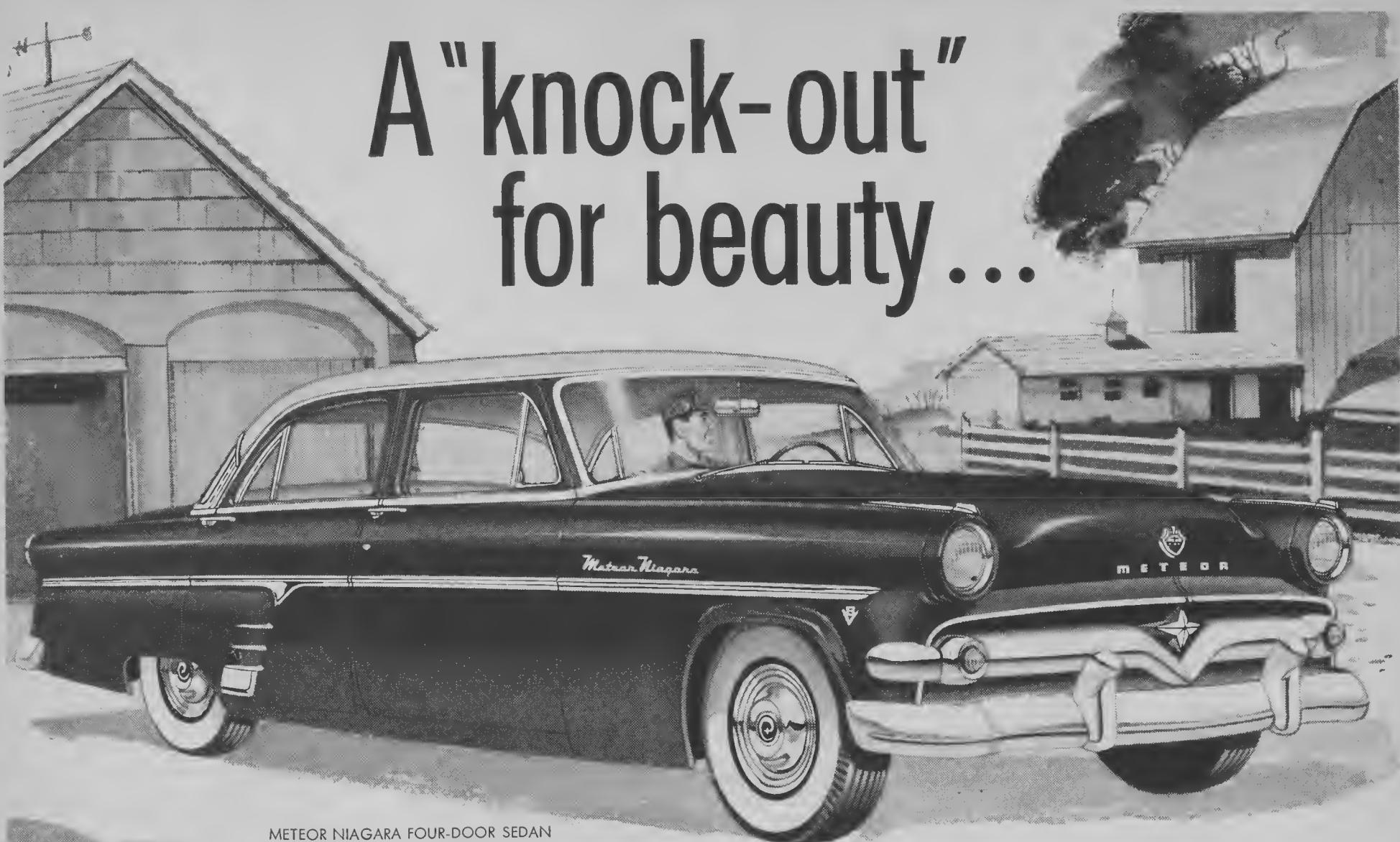
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JULY, 1954

# A "knock-out" for beauty...



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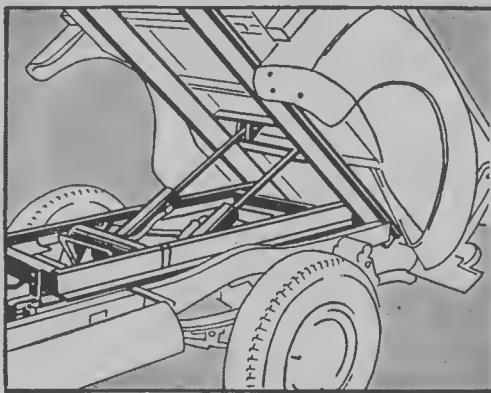


BEFORE YOU DECIDE ON ANY NEW CAR . . . TRY "METEOR WONDER RIDE"

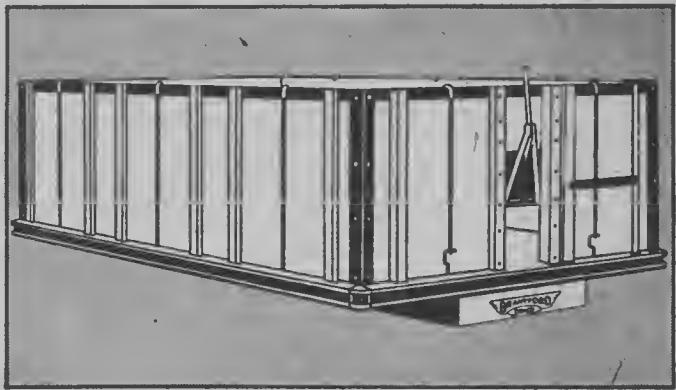
# CANADA'S LARGEST TRUCK HOIST MANUFACTURER



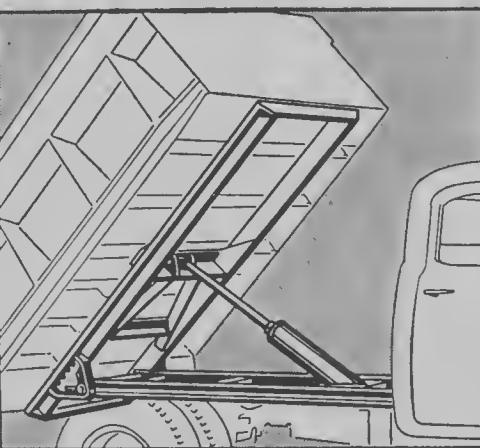
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[Photo by D. Clemson]

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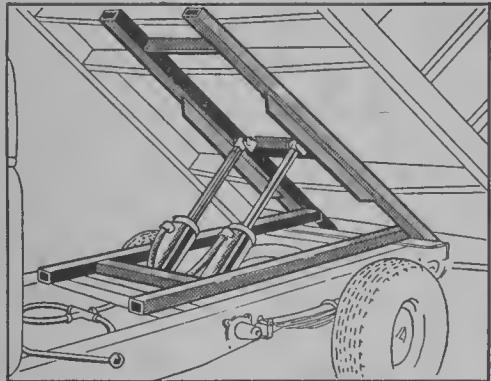
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LOW PRICED  
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## ← Model "S"

4-ton capacity for  $\frac{3}{4}$  or 1 ton truck with four-speed transmission.

FARM PRICE

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## Model "B" →

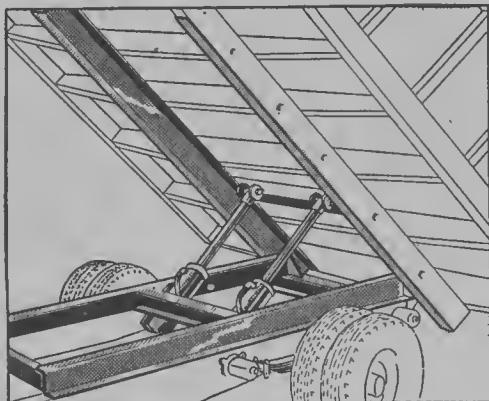
8-ton capacity for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  and 2-ton trucks.

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## Featuring

- Double-Acting Twin Cylinders for high capacity, giving two-way, complete control of both the PUSH and PULL actions.
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- Frames and sub-sills of both models are rigidly constructed of heavy duty steel, with extra reinforcement at all points of strain.
- The Vickers Pump and the leak-proof Cylinders used in the "Farm King" Hoists, as well as the high quality steel, represents far greater value than any other hoist on the market.



## CONTROL FIELD MOISTURE

FOR

# BIGGER CROP RETURNS

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MORE BUSHELS PER  
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For engine, hopper, spout, tire and tube prices, see below, right.



Highest Elevation.

## THE

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## All-Feature

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FEATURES—Two safety ratchet winches give any loading height or angle desired. Low slung, self-leveling universal engine mount. Adjustable belt tightener. Specially designed heavy duty trailer hoist to give long reach into bin. Chrome cast gears. Safety bottom feed cage. Roller, end-thrust and bronze bearings for smoother, faster operation. Alemite grease fittings throughout. 6" heavy duty 16 gauge one-piece lock-weld steel tubing, reinforced at bottom. Special double entry auger loads up to 2,000 bus. per hour! Complete with 15" wheels, trailer hoist, belt and pulleys.

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For engine, hopper, spout, tire and tube prices, see below, right.

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FASTER  
WITH  
THE  
NEW

## SCOOP- MASTER GRAIN LOADER



Featuring the new patented "Double Lift" Trailer Hoist. Top value for your machinery dollar! Low slung self-leveling engine mount. Adjustable belt tightener permits easy starting under load. Gear box lower drive. Efficient gear reduction unit with end thrust ball bearing at top end. Chrome cast gears. BONUS FEATURES: The new adjustable drive shaft and two-position gear box permits further reach into the grain bin. This extra heavy-duty, lock-weld, 16 gauge 7" steel tubing and specially pressed 6" auger flighting with the new patented "double dip" intake for maximum efficiency, gives faster and more efficient grain loading capacity up to 2,400 bus. per hour!



Above shows the extra low trailing height for maximum safety when travelling. Priced complete with wheels, undercarriage, belt and pulleys.

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ELEVATES 19 FEET **\$264.00**

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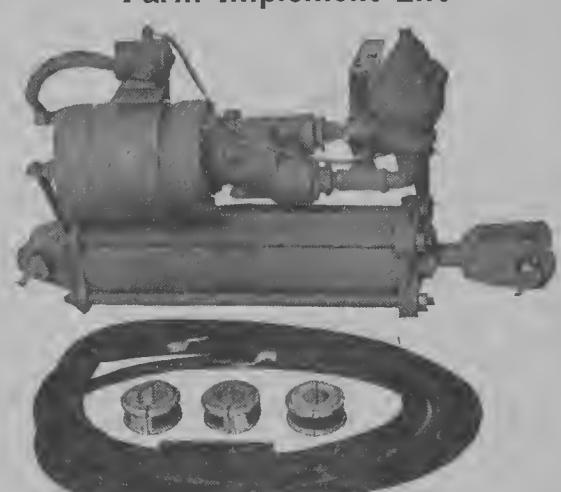
For engine, hopper, spout, tire and tube prices see right.

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GRAIN LOADER HOPPERS  
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Extra Large (48" wide) **\$13.50**

600x16 4 ply **\$18.25**  
6 ply **\$22.50**

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6 ply **\$29.95**

670x15 4 ply **\$32.35**  
6 ply **\$36.35**

760x15 4 ply **\$24.20**  
6 ply **\$28.20**

600x16 6 ply **\$21.80**  
6 ply **\$27.30**

600x16 6 ply **\$**

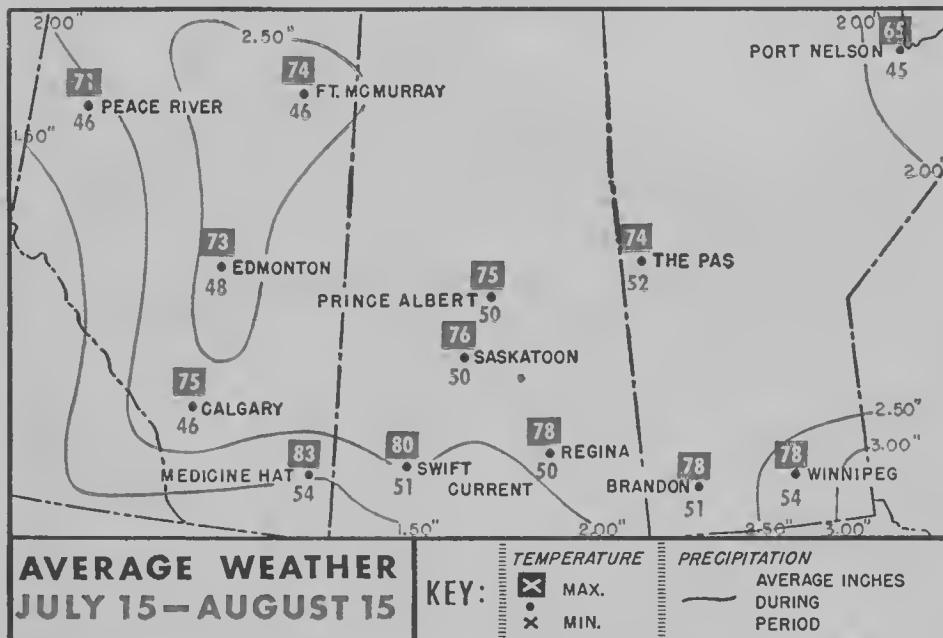
# Prairie Weather

Prepared by DR. IRVING P. KRICK and Staff

for

THE  
*Country*  
GUIDE

(Allow a day or two either way in using this forecast. It should be 75 per cent right for your area, but not necessarily for your farm.—ed.)



## Alberta

Extremely heavy showers occurred locally in Alberta during late July and early August last year. Edmonton had a 24-hour fall of 4.49 inches on the 31st, a record for the 75 years of observations. The first week of the period brought warmer than usual weather to Alberta. The last ten days of July and the first few days of August, however, were associated with generally below average temperatures. Warm conditions then returned, prevailing through mid-month. For 1954, the mid-July to

mid-August interval will be characterized by above normal temperatures, particularly so during the three warm spells indicated on the calendar bar. Thus, ample warmth is in prospect for stimulating growth of crops and pastures. Rainfall, however, is likely to be slightly deficient in the more populated southern area of Alberta. In the northerly sections of the province, near normal monthly totals are anticipated. Sufficient precipitation should occur for maintaining soil moisture reserves, but a drying tendency developing in August may cause local deficiencies. V



## Saskatchewan

Warmer than normal weather is expected during the mid-July to mid-August period. Several warm spells are in prospect with afternoon temperatures higher than usual. Somewhat cooler conditions will be recorded during the indicated stormy periods, primarily due to cloudiness. Rainfall during the next 30 days will trend toward less than normal amounts. In general, the principal shower activity should be associated with the July and early August periods. Growing condi-

tions, therefore, should be quite favorable in areas retaining good soil moisture reserves. Last year, Saskatchewan experienced very warm weather in mid-July. Temperatures then turned slightly cooler than usual until early August when warmer conditions once again became established. Precipitation was above normal in the first few days of August. Thereafter, moisture deficiencies accumulated over much of the province. Most of the excesses resulted from heavy but local shower activity. V



## Manitoba

Unsettled weather conditions prevailed over Manitoba into the first week of August last year. From then on through mid-month, warm and dry weather was observed with many days of good, open weather recorded. Most of the precipitation occurred during thunderstorms, some of which gave large amounts of rain. During the July 15–August 15 interval this year, Manitoba may expect temperatures to average above normal. With

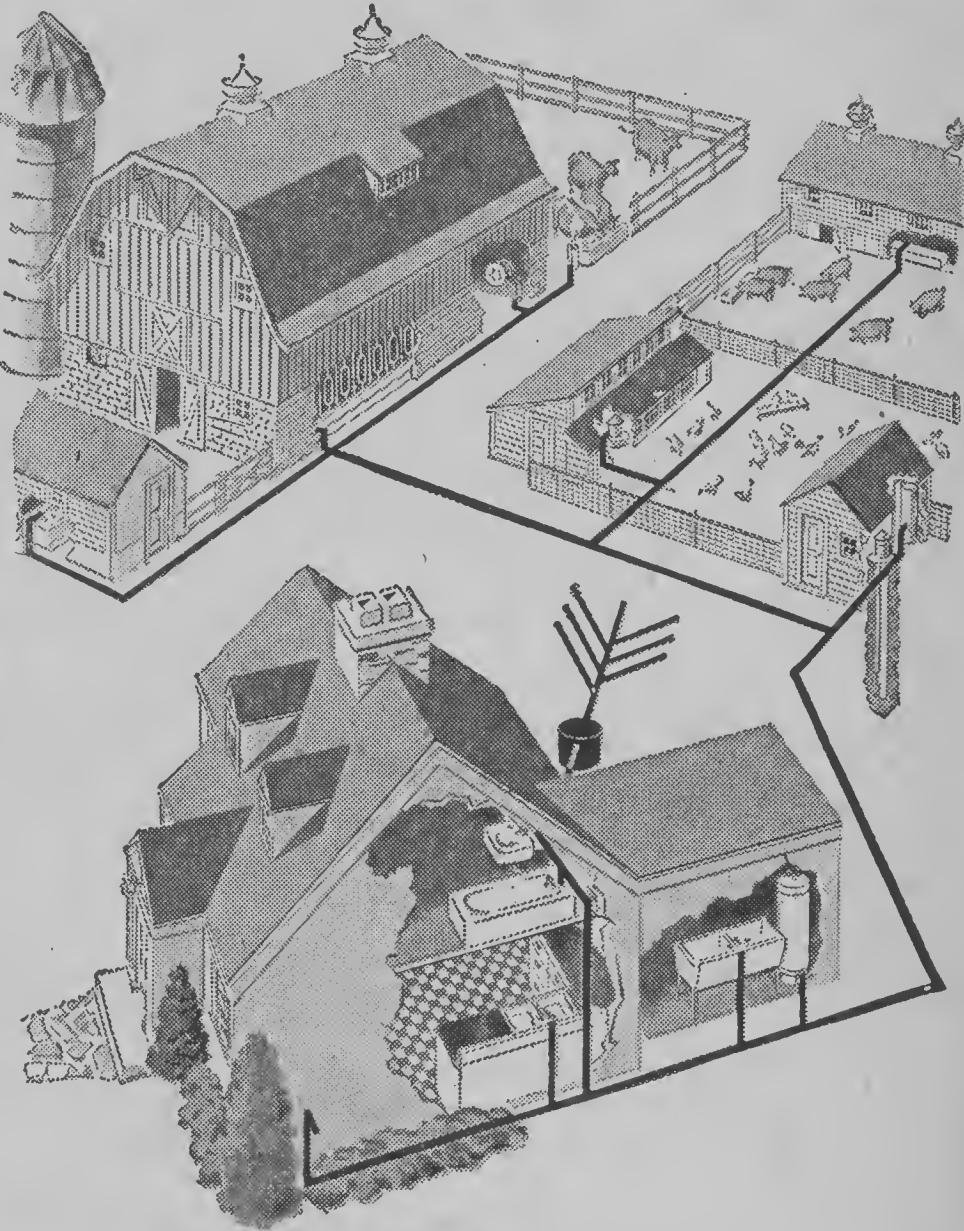
the exception of two short cool spells occurring coincident with the stormy periods, the warm conditions appear likely to persist almost continuously. Rainfall totals will equal the long-time average over the province although considerable local variation is probable due to the shower-type of precipitation in prospect. Good growing weather will be recorded with "open" conditions permitting farm activities to be carried on with little interruption. Soil moisture reserves will be drawn down during this period. V



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for the home...**

**less work, more profit  
and greater safety for the farm...**

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**the preferred PLUMBING and HEATING**



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want it..**

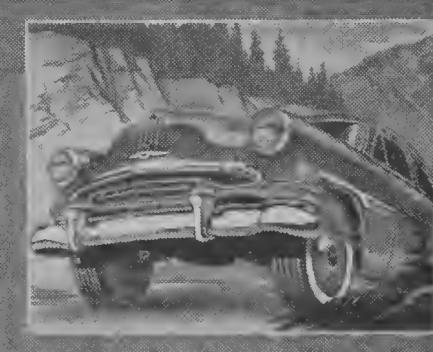
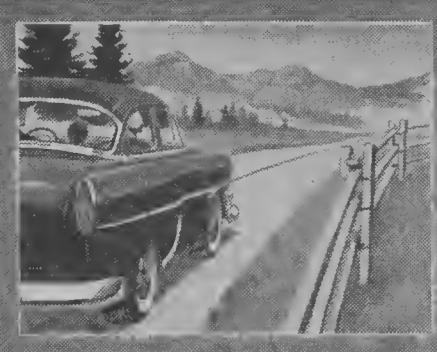
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buy it..**

**Dollar  
for dollar**

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on the highway really appreciate the Pontiac owner's pride in his car's performance. Spacious comfort, cloud-soft ride, driving conveniences . . . all have to be tried to be believed. For here, in every thoughtful, proven detail, is a car built for the discriminating (but dollar conscious) motorist; a car which, though priced with the lowest, is styled with the highest. Try driving a Pontiac yourself soon. In fact, why not see your Pontiac dealer today?



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A General Motors Value

# TV: Or Pigs in Your Parlor

*About a visit to Iowa and what we learned about television for farmers*

by H. S. FRY

 **A**T 8 p.m. on Monday, May 31, Canadian television came to the prairies. It was then that CBWT, built in Winnipeg for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, began regular programming on Channel 4, with a visual, or image-reception power of 56,200 watts.

Before the end of 1954 a number of independent TV stations—at least four—are expected to open on the prairies. One of these, CKCK-TV in Regina is expected to begin operations before this issue reaches our readers. The other three, CFRN-TV in Edmonton, CFQC-TV in Saskatoon, and CHCT-TV in Calgary, are due to start telecasts during the fall months.

CBWT is expected to serve about half the population of Manitoba, but this is only possible because it is located in the most populous prairie area. The actual range of reception will probably be in the neighborhood of 60 to 70 miles.

What can television do for prairie farmers? This was the question that interested editors of *The Country Guide*. To find out, we were on our way a few days later, to Ames, Iowa, accompanied by D. C. Foster, assistant director, Extension Service, Manitoba Department of Agriculture. We wanted to find out, as accurately as possible, how U.S. farmers had taken to television; about how many had purchased television sets after four years of television service; what value TV has, aside from entertainment; and especially, whether it would be likely to help prairie farmers solve some of their production and marketing problems. Mr. Foster had been commissioned by his department to find out, if he could, how a provincial department of agriculture would fit into this new element in mass communication, and how—perhaps working with the near-by University of Manitoba—it might turn to account yet another means of serving the rural folk of Manitoba.

 **W**hy go to Ames? Well, Dr. Wallace Ogg, Department of Economics and Sociology at Iowa State College, located at Ames, had been in Winnipeg only a week or two before, and had fired our imaginations with his talk about TV in that state. Iowa is a rich, fertile state containing 180,000 farms, which combine to produce more revenue every year from farm products—especially corn, hogs and cattle—than any other state in the Union, except California.

Since February, 1950, Iowa State College has been operating its own TV station, primarily as a public service, but also as a commercial station, to make sufficient money to support the public service programs. At least 30 different programs are produced daily or weekly in its own studios, to serve the farms, homes, schools, and communities of the state. The College also operates two radio stations, one AM and the other FM, but these operate with entirely separate staffs.

"We even had our TV viewers grading hogs one night in March," said Dave Bateman, editor of the TV farm programs. "Sure! There were families and groups meeting all over the state. It was on March 8, and we had eight contest hogs right in the studio. They starred in one of a series of five programs entitled 'Improve Pork Quality and Strengthen Consumer Demand'. We wanted people to see the difference between meat-type, good, and overfat hogs, and to put the point over, we staged a hog-grading contest. As a result, those hogs got right into thousands of farm-and-city homes that night. And say, they did more to make the people in our area conscious of the meat-type

hog, than the Extension Service and other agencies had been able to do in 20 years.

"Of course, we had to do some spade work in advance. We sent out a letter to all our county extension directors (corresponding to agricultural representatives, or district agriculturists in western Canada) in the middle of February, and enclosed an outline of the series. In it, we asked for help to get the farmers of individual counties interested. We got it, too. TV works best when you can tie in with the local people, and particularly well when the College works through the Extension Service."

Merritt C. Ludwig, assistant to the director of WOI-TV, told us that TV has the virtue of reaching people quickly. "You can wait until almost the last few hours, or minutes, if necessary, to give the results of work just completed at the College. The impact of TV on people is very startling, too. We have found ready acceptance of it. People actually spend more time looking at TV, than anything except sleeping and working.

"Farmers were a little slower to purchase TV sets than people in cities, but now, within our television area, the percentage of farmers who have purchased sets is almost the same as in the cities—about two out of three, as compared with three out of four.

"With 100,000 watts visual we get out 75 miles very well, and programs are received acceptably at 100 miles from the station," said Mr. Ludwig.

Mrs. Bernice Hulin, editor of TV programs in home economics, had been doing the same work with a commercial TV station in Minneapolis until recently. She was full of enthusiasm and ideas about TV. She still gets a chuckle out of a series called "Weight Watchers," intended for people who need to take off a few pounds. Certain prizes and helpful literature were offered, but the county extension director in Des Moines, just 30 miles away, had decided not to tie in with this series. That was a mistake: his office was so



*A WOI-TV "Farm Facts" program underway. Dave Bateman, farm TV editor (right) and a panel of college experts with demonstration material at hand to help reach thousands clearly and forcefully.*



*[C.B.C. photo and spots]  
This is the magic eye of television—the TV camera at work.*

deluged with phone calls immediately after the first program that literature had to be rushed from Ames. In all, 9,200 persons from 47 counties in the state requested material from the College. Viewing groups of weight watchers gathered together all over these counties, and interest was sustained for many weeks.

 We went over to see Professor James Davis who is in charge of school programs. There are about 500 individual and autonomous school districts in the TV area, with about 700 school buildings. It is difficult to arrange satisfactory viewing time but "Iowa TV School Time" goes out five times weekly from the College. When the program was first started, only three schools had television sets. Now they are installed in at least 200 schools, and the pupils of another 90 watch the program in nearby homes.

"TV," said Mr. Davis, "should seek to enrich and supplement the school program, not to substitute for what the teacher could do better. The most important ingredient in any educational program on TV is the teacher, who must be enthusiastic and know his subject.

"TV has several advantages for school programs. One of these is that it brings good teachers into classrooms for thousands. It also encourages parental interest in classroom teaching. A surprising TV value, perhaps, is that it reads for slow pupils and spans the wide gap" (Please turn to page 54)

**Everybody in town was interested in Bob's young wife and ready to absorb her into their own pattern of living. The young English girl gazed about her saying little and going on lonely rambles. Ellen wondered what she was thinking**

ELLEN FORBES tucked in the corners of her best Dresden plate quilt, smoothing it over the bed with long, caressing strokes, then turned to Anne Rountree.

"What if she doesn't like it here?" she said.

Ellen Forbes always made Anne think of good things, like freshly laundered clothes just brought in from the warmth of the sun and sweetness of the air, and spic and span paint, and rows of preserves on shelves. Everything about her and her house was the same. No frills, no dangles, no overstuffed, bulging furniture, but the clean and functional comfort of lines adapted to everyday use. Her real artistry was in her cooking. What she often couldn't say in words she expressed in the work of her hands, and many a hidden message of sympathy or approval or friendliness went into her neighbors' houses with a plate of fluffy biscuits or a juicy fruit pie. When Anne came as a bride to Elmwood two years ago, to live next door to the Forbes', Ellen had been wonderful that way. Now, with her best quilt, Anne knew she was trying to say to the unknown daughter-in-law, "We want you to be happy here."

That the wish was not entirely unselfish didn't make it any less valid.

Will and Ellen Forbes had always counted on Bob becoming his father's partner in the hardware store, but when Bob finished school he signed up as craftsman with the Air Force for a three-year term, and while neither Ellen nor Will ever said much, everybody knew it was a bitter blow. After a year he was suddenly posted to Germany, and then to England, where he met and married this girl, Rosemary.

"That does it," Anne said to her husband, Ned. "When his term is up, he'll stay over there."

But he wrote home, "The longer I've been away the better Elmwood looks," and Ellen Forbes looked years younger.

Now it all depended on Rosemary. If she were happy and contented in Elmwood, Will Forbes would be able to put up the freshly painted sign he had been dreaming of for years: "W. Forbes & Son—Hardware," and Ellen could look forward to babysitting with her grandchildren.

Rosemary was to start across by boat. Bob would fly over, arriving in time to meet her when she landed. But one of those hitches occurred at the last minute, and Bob's arrival was delayed for a few weeks.

"Probably land bang on Mom's birthday," he cabled.

So Rosemary and his parents were going to have to face the ordeal of meeting without him to ease it.



# Key to Rosemary

by MARGARET E. BARNARD

Ellen set the pillows in place and unfolded the creamy chenille bedspread and said diffidently to Anne, "Would you come with us on Thursday when we go to meet her?"

"If you want me," Anne said.

"She might like to see someone nearer her own age," Ellen said.

ON Thursday, in the back seat of the Forbes car, Anne was torn with sympathy first for Ellen then for Rosemary, who would at this very minute be staring through the boat-train window, watching for her station. Into the midst of a long silence Will Forbes said to Ellen, "Relax, old girl. What have you got to be scared of?"

"What if she doesn't like us?" Ellen said.

"Why wouldn't she?"

Ellen went off on another tack. "Do you suppose she'll recognize us?"

"We'll know her when we see her, anyway," Will said. "That is, if she looks anything like her photograph."

She looked exactly as a girl called Rosemary should, Anne thought. She came in past the barrier—pink and gold and blue-eyed—walking hesitantly in the stream of passengers from the train, her eyes shyly searching the waiting crowd. Will Forbes went directly to her, but for a moment Ellen's hand closed on Anne's arm as if for support.

"You must be Rosemary," Will said heartily. "I'm Bob's dad. Here's his mother. And Anne Rountree, a young friend of ours."

"Oh—how do you do?" She smiled faintly and Anne thought with quick compassion, "She's scared. She's lonely and scared and unsure."

A little stiffly because of her own shyness, Ellen kissed her and said, "You must be tired after your long trip."

"I am, rather," Rosemary said, in her pretty, clipped accent.

They all, while pretending not to, studied one another.

*The boy from the telegraph office wobbled his bicycle to a stop at the verandah steps. "For you, Mrs. Forbes," he said, handing Ellen an envelope.*

Illustrated by J. H. Petrie

Anne thought, "All she knows about his parents is probably just that Bob told her they were great. And he likely told them she was a honey, and then was sure they'd get on like a house afire."

WHEN the luggage was stowed in back and they were out on the highway and Rosemary had answered the usual questions about the crossing and how she had weathered it, silence gripped them again. Anne, trying to create some link for Rosemary between what she had left and the unknown present, said, "Bob must know practically every stick and stone along this road, Mr. Forbes."

Rosemary's eyes suddenly brimmed and Will said quickly, "He covered it often enough. Every leave he tore back home for some of his mother's good cooking." He pointed out, as they came near Elmwood, the far ridge where Bob knew the best brook for trout, the woods where he and Bob went gunning in the fall, the river where he had had a cold ducking because he insisted the ice was strong enough for skating when it wasn't. Rosemary listened intently, turning to look at everything he indicated, and at last they came in sight of Elmwood, a tree-embowered cluster of houses in a curve of the road.

When they stopped in front of the Forbes house, Rosemary's eyes moved from window to window, from the verandah posts to the scroll-work that outlined the gables and back again.

Ellen said nervously, "Won't you come in and have a cup of tea with us, Anne?"

"I'll pop in this afternoon sometime," she said, and explained to Rosemary, "I live next door."

She wondered what this small, sleepy town would seem like to Rosemary. When she herself had come first it looked very like the home town she had left, though with white-painted wooden houses instead of red brick, and a canning factory and fruit storage warehouses instead of a woollen mill and a carpet factory. To Rosemary it must all seem new and strange, but would it appeal?

EVERYBODY in Elmwood was interested in Bob's young wife and ready to absorb her into their own pattern of living. With Ellen and Anne she went to the Institute and to the Community Club, but wherever they went Anne had the impression that the essential Rosemary was somewhere else. As Cora Evans remarked one day when she and Anne were clearing up snippets left from the Club sewing, the girl looked as if she were walking in her sleep. She seemed to prefer being by herself and roaming all over the place.

"Plain snooty, if you ask me," Jean Howe said, pursing her lips.

"She talks so la-di-da," another one said.

"She can't help that," Anne defended her. "It only sounds that way because we're not used to it, and be-

(Please turn to page 39)



Billy McKinnon smiles while his picture is taken with an armful of wood for the stove, but . . .



Rod, his brother, has a proper holiday job, trying out mother's crisp, fresh doughnuts in a comfortable spot.



Holidays without Mike wouldn't be so much fun, because he is always ready to play.

## Summer Holidays

WISE parents decided long ago that boys and girls of school age should not spend the hot, bright days of summer inside school-houses, however necessary these may be throughout the remainder of the year. Billy, Rod, and Mac McKinnon, who live at Togo, Saskatchewan, think it is a swell idea. As the pictures tell us, they live on a farm, where their father, Neil McKinnon, takes a little time off once in a while to indulge in some photography.

A farm is a really wonderful place to spend holidays. No other place anywhere is quite as good. Farms are alive; and to be alive is the best thing in the whole world. All of the crops are alive, just as much so as the horses, cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry. So are the trees, grass, flowers and birds, and even the soil itself.

What a place to be during the holidays! Beautiful clouds and sunsets, singing birds, more fresh air than a million boys and girls could use up,— and of course, Mike, or some other dog or animal to play with, to say nothing of the pleasure Rod is getting from that doughnut in the picture above. V



Mac and small friend try out the fishing and Mac's professional cast ought to bring results.



While Mac fishes, Billy practises his archery, though that arrow might be over the target.



Billy seems pleased here, but it may be because the fresh carrot tastes good.



This isn't play for Mac, but it looks easy—watching the men handle bales.

# Your Brand Is Your Protection

ONE of the interesting articles on display at the 1954 Western Stock Growers' convention, at High River, Alberta, was a photo-static copy of the original book in which the early brands of the North West Territories were recorded. The book itself is maintained in the provincial library at Edmonton. It was interesting to hear the comments of some of the old-timers as they browsed through it and recalled memories of some of the characters and ranch outfits of those early days.

The first brand recorded in this book was 71 and is noted as follows:

"No. 1. Filed 16th March, A.D. 1880. No. 12 of 1878, An Ordinance respecting the marking of stock. Fort Macleod, 28th January, 1880; I hereby certify that Percy R. Neale and Samuel B. Steele have this day registered their brand or mark which said brand is placed on the near ribs of each of their cattle. Signed H. Hinder, Recorder."

This book contains 95 brands, filed from March 16, 1880, to July 26, 1883. All records are written in longhand, and over that period, were signed by four different recorders in this order: H. Hinder, T. Dowling, F. Harper and C. E. D. Wood. The brand characters were relatively simple and in some of the earlier cases had apparently been traced around the actual irons. The location of the ranches represented, ranged from Fort Walsh to Fort Macleod, and from the Bow River country as far west as Cochrane. A number of these old brands are still registered and in good standing in Alberta.

THE first systematic recording of brands as set out in this old record book came about with the realization that the territory was too large for anyone to know all the brands without a central registry, and that brands were becoming so numerous that, even at that early date, some duplication was occurring. It was also found that in the system of large round-ups followed in those days, a considerable number of animals strayed, or were driven

*There are tens of thousands of recorded horse and cattle brands in western Canada.*

*Read this article carefully*

by W. H. T. MEAD

from their own range, so that without a central registry, it was impossible to trace the owners.

In those early days a brand was regarded not only as a mark of ownership, but as a trade-mark for the product of a certain cattle outfit. While it is less evident today, this still holds true, particularly on the markets in southern Alberta, southwestern Saskatchewan, Kamloops and Williams Lake in British Columbia, and at Winnipeg. The trade in western Canada, and indeed to some extent in eastern Canada, is familiar with the sources of good beef cattle, and will always associate some of these sources with certain brands.

AS the western provinces were settled, the settlers who overran the area found grass available in abundance. The result was a rapid expansion of farming and grazing, without time or money to provide fencing. Brand recording, branding, and later brand inspection of the stock marketed, was set up by statutes in British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan, following the organization of those areas as provinces.

The legislation varies in the three provinces, but has certain features in common. It is not compulsory to brand in any of the western provinces, but in British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan it is illegal to brand with a mark that is not registered. The inspection of stock in these provinces is carried out to establish a record of the cattle and horses marketed. In the process of inspection the aim is to detect any irregularities in ownership claims, as

completely as possible, without seriously hampering the movement of stock through trade channels.

British Columbia has brand inspection districts. Alberta inspection regulations apply to the whole province. Saskatchewan has a brand inspection area in the southwest and western part of the province. Generally speaking, each province has set up its inspection regulations to meet its own conditions as created by topography, climate and ease of movement to other areas. Manitoba has a brand-recording service, but does not carry out brand inspection.

The administration of brand regulations has changed over the years. Such changes have accompanied the transition from the period when a stray, or a herd, moved from place to place entirely on foot, or by rail, to the present time, when an overnight jaunt of a couple of hundred miles from farm to market, or from market to feedlot, cover crop, forest range, or community pasture, is quite common. The ease of movement of livestock by truck, the widely accepted use of frozen food lockers, the development of an extensive feeding industry, and the increasing practice of moving young cattle from the ranches for further fattening or growing periods, has greatly complicated the work of keeping track of those cattle, and protecting the brand owner's interest.

During the period from 1926 to 1940, interest in the cattle business was reduced because of the period of dry years and low prices. Many farmers permitted their brands to lapse, and many more brought their stock inside fences and considered that branding was no longer necessary. As prices began to rise, brand recording also increased. This increase, in Alberta, has been greatest in the mixed farming and feeding areas. It has also brought about the problem of poor branding. On most ranches the job of applying the branding iron is entrusted to a cowboy with experience. However, we now have a great number of inexperienced people, both on farms and ranches, who are not applying brands in a manner that gives them maximum protection.

ALBERTA has approximately 21,000 registered cattle brands, and approximately 3,500 registered horse brands. With 25,000 brands registered it is quite common for unregistered brands to duplicate a registered brand. Whenever this is detected, the owner is required to obtain a clearance from the brand owner, and the incident may result in prosecution.

A brand, to be of maximum value, should be applied as shown on the certificate of registration, in a manner that gives a permanent, easily detected and deciphered mark. Once an animal gets out of the home community, and is lodged in a pound, or its ownership questioned by a brand inspector, the unregistered brand has no value, because the pound-keeper, or stock inspector has no way of tracing ownership. The brand that is poorly applied, blotched, or otherwise rendered illegible, is useless for the same reason. It costs no more in time or inconvenience to apply a good registered brand, than it does to apply a sloppy brand, whether registered or not. The loss of one animal through bad branding will more than pay for registration for a lifetime, along with the cost of good irons. There is real value in the pride one can take in a job well done.

The common reasons for difficulty are failure to register with the Recording Office, the use of poorly constructed irons that are too small, improper heat, improper restraint of the animal, branding when animals are wet, and the use of liquid or acid brands. Care should be taken to apply brands as they appear on the certificate. An error in putting a bar over a brand when it should be under, or in relationship of one letter to another, may, and probably does duplicate someone else's brand.

Branding irons for horses should be smaller than for cattle. Calf irons should not be less than four inches high. For

(Please turn to page 36)



Branding with an iron seems cruel, but probably causes less pain and is more reliable than other methods.

Bert Smith photo

# Dead Bulls Now Sire Offspring

*Frozen semen sufficient to sire more than 20,000 calves was stored last year at the Ontario Veterinary College*

by LYN HARRINGTON

Photographs by RICHARD HARRINGTON

**F**RED HAMILTON, operator of a dairy farm outside Guelph, Ontario, was showing off his Holstein herd one day. He related how this milk-producer was the daughter of the well-known—. That one over there was sired by—. A third came from the high-producing line of—, until he had covered the entire herd.

His companion, a professor from the Ontario Veterinary College, looked at him oddly. "No two of your cows have the same blood lines, do you realize? No wonder you're complaining that your herd lacks uniformity."

"Sure, I know. That's the difficulty with artificial insemination. I'd rather breed to a limited number of sires, but you can't always get the semen you want, when the cows come in heat. So, for the last five years, I've been using what's available, like anybody else—if it's close to what I want, of course."

Mr. Hamilton's problems are now solved. Since last November, he has been using frozen semen exclusively in his artificial insemination program. The semen of selected sires is always available now in cold storage. His success has been at least equal to the usual artificial insemination.

He whipped some figures out of his breast pocket, explaining with a grin, "I'm kind of proud of these figures. They're straight from my record book. Eleven cows out of 14 caught on the first service, and the other three on the second. Out of another 19, all conceived on the first or second service. Mind you, I'm not saying that the frozen semen will be suitable forever, nor all the time. But that's certainly a satisfactory conception rate."

Dr. R. J. McDonald, veterinary surgeon of Woodstock, Ontario, and manager of the Oxford and District Cattle Breeding Association, pointed out other advantages.

"At the moment," he said, "the main advantage of frozen semen seems that a breeder will be able to breed his cows to the bull of his choice any day, which of course isn't possible under present conditions."

"Then, too, more efficient use can be made of the semen processed. A large amount of it is otherwise wasted, mainly because it can't be kept long enough to be used successfully. The frozen semen will be most valuable in obtaining a more widespread use of the desirably proven sires. In fact, it may be possible to build up a sufficient supply of semen from the desirably proven bulls to breed cows to them after they are dead."

That aspect of the case has been proved already, in several instances. For example, Mrs. John Gilman, some ten miles outside of Guelph, has two Jersey heifers of the same father, both artificially bred. The sire, Brampton BPR Prince, belonging to the Waterloo Artificial Insemination Unit, was a good, but not outstanding, bull. He was slaughtered in January, 1953. Mrs. Gilman's second heifer wasn't

sired until June—six months after the sire's death. It takes no imagination to realize the potentialities of great sires, if they can procreate long after their own lifetime.

**T**HE use of frozen semen is still in the experimental stage, and has not been used very widely to date. The discovery that semen could be held for long periods in cold storage, thawed and prove as effective as fresh semen, was made in England. Dr. J. A. Henderson, vice-principal of the Ontario Veterinary College, was in on these experiments, as well as others in Denmark and the United States. Under his guidance, O.V.C. began this work in November, 1952. A calf was born in August, 1953, of their first successful breeding with frozen semen.

"Throughout 1953, field trials with frozen semen were carried on by the Oxford, Hamilton and Waterloo Breeding Associations," Dr. McDonald recalled. "Some 2,300 cows were bred with semen

which had been frozen and stored at the College laboratory. From this work, we were able to prove that cows could be got in calf, with frozen semen. When top-quality semen is frozen and handled properly, the conception rate is satisfactory, although, as yet, the results obtained in most cases are not equal to those being obtained with liquid semen."

Dr. J. W. Macpherson, who has been in charge of the research at O.V.C., admits that results vary. "Conception rates were satisfactory, from bulls of high fertility. Where the bull wasn't good, neither were the results with his frozen semen. Natural incidence of conception is about 65 per cent in the normal way. We got about 67 per cent with good bulls."

The Oxford and District Cattle Breeding Association is the largest of the nine Ontario artificial insemination units; and among them, its members have all the familiar (Please turn to page 37)



*A fieldman for an artificial insemination association packs his kit. Note that tongs are used to transfer the capsules of frozen semen to a jar of ice.*



*This healthy calf, sired six months after her sire died, was the first to demonstrate the value of the bank of frozen semen established at the Ontario Veterinary College.*



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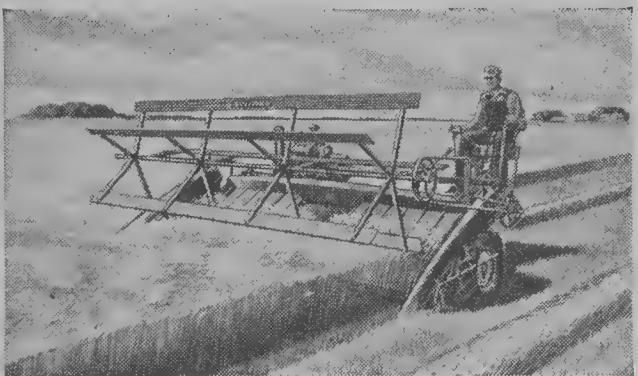
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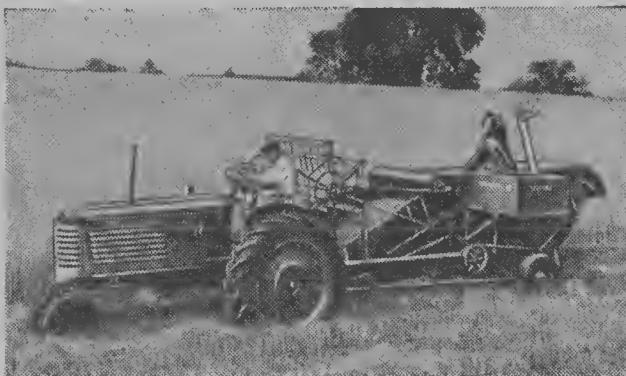
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## Letter From Rome

by JOHN ANDERSON

**Sugar Beet Trouble.** Italy's sugar beet industry, which supplies the country with almost its entire sugar requirements, is at the moment experiencing some discord. Sugar processors and distributors are strongly protesting a government measure raising the price of sugar by six lire a kilogram. The price raise—equivalent to less than half a cent a pound—is for the purpose of providing health insurance for the myriad of small independent farmers who produce the beet. ✓

**World Census of Agriculture.** The first volume of a series of three, giving detailed figures of the world's agricultural resources, is to be published by F.A.O. late this year. The data for these volumes comes from the "1950 World Census of Agriculture," which covers 63.6 per cent of the world's total land area (most notable exclusions—U.S.S.R. and China). The first volume of the series will deal with the statistical methods employed in the census, and volumes two and three will give the actual census results and analyses of differences in agricultural structure and production, of the various countries and regions. ✓

**The Rights of Sharecroppers.** Italy's sharecroppers—the "mezzadri," who work a farm and share the fruits of their labors with the owner of the property, in lieu of paying rent, and who constitute one-fifth of all the country's agriculturists—are not entitled to go on strike. The right to strike, as a means of showing their dissatisfaction with the poor returns that their working of often unprofitable land may give, was legally denied them by a recent ruling of a Florence court. The gist of the court's arguments was that the "mezzadri" arrangement is a free partnership, and partners must take the bad with the good, if any. ✓

**Surpluses Discussed.** The Commodity Problems Committee of F.A.O. met in Rome June 3-11. The 20-nation Committee examined recent developments in the world commodity situation, but the major item on the agenda was a study of the report of a working party on the disposal of agricultural surpluses. This group met in Washington earlier in the year. ✓

**Caveat Emptor!** Agricultural products in Italy may not be strictly in accordance with the label on the bottle—or package—according to revelations recently made by the agricultural minister, Giuseppe Medici, before the Italian parliament. In speaking of his ministry's "fight against fraud," Signor Medici told of date juice being used in the making of wine; oil produced from the feet of cattle being passed off as olive oil; "miraculous" fertilizers that consisted of nothing more than sand mixed with pounded stone, darkened and "scented" with coal oil; wild-rhubarb seed masquerading as grass seed, and—western dairymen please note—margarine being sold as butter with pasture-munching cows pictured on the package. ✓

# Under the Peace Tower

by HUGH BOYD

**O**Na hot July night in the Regina Armories, mopping the perspiration from his forehead as he spoke, the Prime Minister of Canada proposed a plan for coping with the gathering, though still not all-encompassing, cloud of unemployment. If returned to office, the Liberal government, he said, would be disposed to put men to work to reduce the peril, at railway-highway crossings. He had in mind a system of overpasses and underpasses, which in the technical language of the Railway Act, is described as grade separation.

The audience, which contained a large number of jobless, was apparently unimpressed. At any rate, the local Liberal candidate, a cabinet minister to boot, was resoundingly defeated a few days later. It was 1930; and Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie King failed to save his government, or the member for Regina (Hon. Charles A. Dunning), or to carry out his plan about level crossings.

The problem, of course, was not new in Mr. King's 1930 campaign, nor had it been entirely neglected before that time. It hasn't been neglected since, either, but in 1954, people continue to be killed, or hurt, at places where road and railway meet. At Ottawa last month, the Board of Transport Commissioners, having devoted more than a year of public hearings and study to the problem, brought down a report which Parliament received in the dying days of the session and will no doubt be asked to do something about, when it next meets.

There are more than 30,000 level crossings in Canada, and the cost of removing them all would run to several billion dollars; so most of them are likely to be around for a long time. The practical approach, therefore, is to build subways, or overpasses, at points where motor traffic is most dense (particularly within cities); to protect as many other crossings as possible by gates, or flashing lights and bells; and to leave the rest unguarded, until some probably remote date in the future.

This is already government policy, and has been for many years. It now becomes a question of increasing the tempo. The Transport Board, agreeing with virtually all witnesses appearing before it in the recent enquiry, believes that more should be spent by the central government.

How much more? Well, there has been a Railway Grade Crossing Fund in existence since 1909. Into this fund Ottawa paid \$200,000 a year in the beginning, but the railways and municipalities were expected to bear the main brunt of crossing protection. As the Parliamentary debates of the time brought out, the danger at crossings arose from the growing traffic on the railways, and the higher speed of trains.

The fund was thus established in the horse and buggy era. It has never quite become adapted to the revolution in transportation that has taken place since then. It has grown five-



fold from \$200,000 to \$1,000,000; the maximum contribution from the federal treasury has been doubled, from 20 per cent to 40 per cent; and the ceiling for the fund, on any single scheme, has gone up from \$5,000 to \$150,000. But this last figure simply means that a handful of large projects would exhaust the fund in any given year.

The railways argue, with a good deal of force, that the character of highway traffic has changed so radically that few crossings are any longer a matter of purely local concern; that motor cars and trucks rather than trains are at the root of the problem; and that the prime responsibility for protection has swung from the railways to the public, and from the local municipalities to the provinces, and to the nation as a whole.

Inability of many municipalities to pay their 30 per cent share of the cost of crossing protection—to say nothing of complete grade separation—has been one of the weaknesses of the present policy. Sometimes a province helps, but it is not bound to do so.

**O**NE of the submissions to the Transport Board was from the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, which was keenly aware of the impossible position in which so many rural municipalities are placed with respect to the level crossing menace. It was also sympathetic to the railways. The Federation suggested "more federal and provincial responsibility and less municipal and railway responsibility." It asked that the federal government's fund be boosted five-fold to \$5,000,000. The Transport Board is in accord on these points.

Whatever Parliament does, whatever part the provinces agree to play, it is obvious that railway crossings will be a hazard during the normal lifetime of most Canadians who survive that hazard. For out of 32,553 crossings, only 3,230 were protected by automatic devices of one kind or another, when the Board made its report. But they all have warning signs. For many years to come the onus will continue to be on motorists, to take a second look at those signs, and act accordingly.

## CROSS MEMBER FOR DRAW-BAR

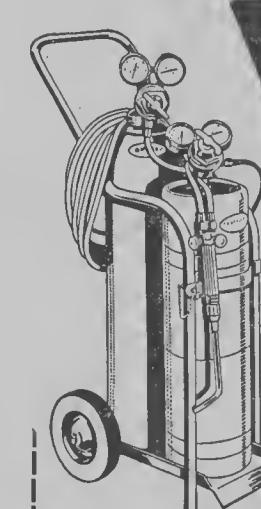
of a cultivator snapped through in the field and overlapped at the break, making welding impossible until it was

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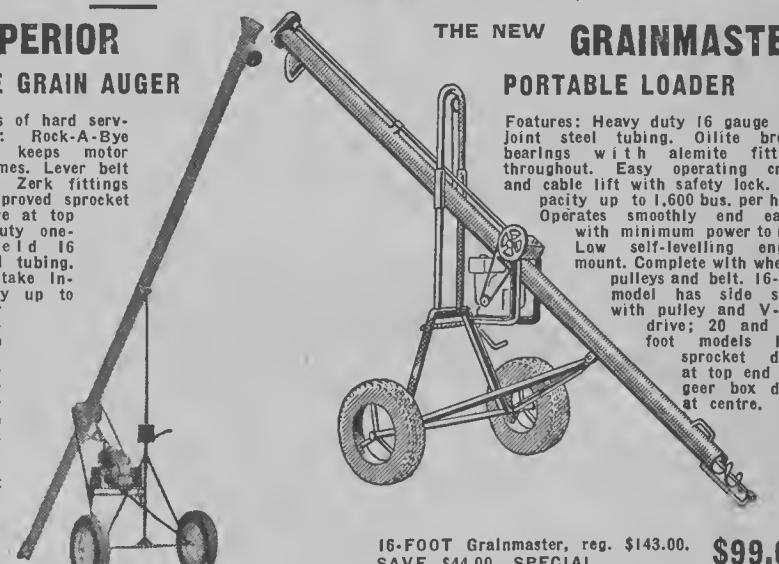
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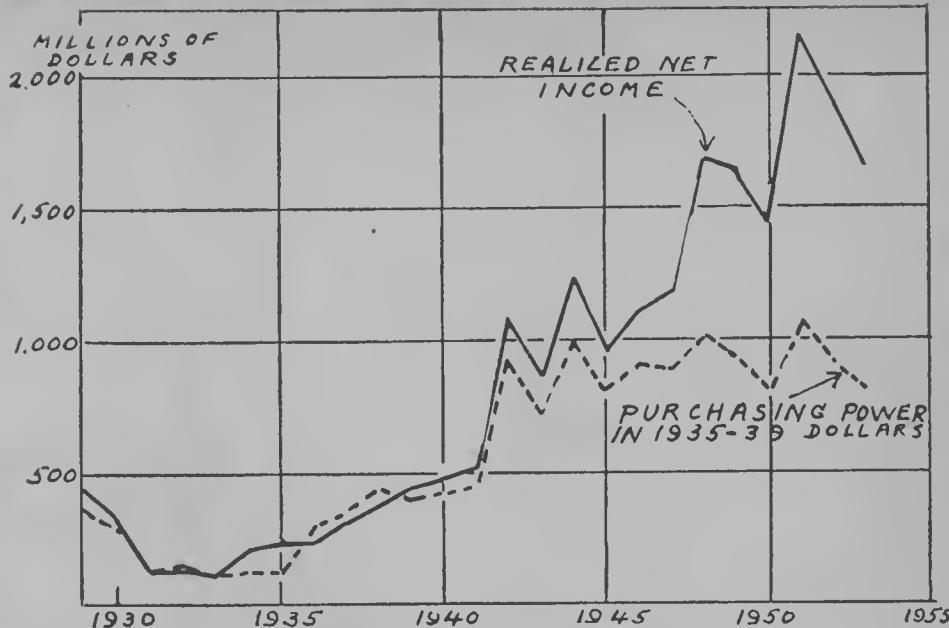
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## NEWS OF AGRICULTURE



This chart shows net Canadian farm income, compared with its purchasing power in terms of constant 1935-39 dollars.

### I.F.A.P. Meets In Kenya

Representing 27 countries, delegates discussed land reform, trade restrictions, world surpluses, and other farm problems

CANADIAN farmers and especially perhaps the grain producers of western Canada, have plenty of problems—one year with another. One problem they do not have to face is that of damage to their wheat fields caused by the trampling of elephants.

Delegates to the 7th meeting of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers, which represents about 25 million farm families in 27 countries, saw something of farming in Kenya (British East Africa) as it is managed by Europeans and Africans, before the conference began. They were able to discuss with some of the Kenya farmers the methods they employ and were naturally impressed by the number of lions, giraffes, and zebras which were to be seen roaming over the countryside.

The conference was opened by Sir Frederick Crawford, Acting Governor of Kenya, who reminded the delegates that the agricultural depression of the '30's was caused to a very considerable degree by the failure of nations to adequately take care of the distribution of primary products. World agriculture once again faces a difficult time and needs the close attention of governments.

Allan B. Kline, president of the world's largest farm organization, the American Farm Bureau Federation, who is also president of I.F.A.P., emphasized the importance of production and trade in raising world living standards. Several factors were important, including increased investment, better working tools and equipment, improved farming methods, and some effective incentive for farmers. He pleaded for increased international understanding but thought that parallel actions were often more effective than joint action, and that consideration must be maintained for the welfare of all who are involved. Facts are more important than demagoguery which could often lead to misunderstanding and suspicion. The free world constantly seeks the maximum degree

of freedom and significance for the individual.

Before the meeting ended the more than 100 delegates urged governments to put programs into effect which would bring about the necessary shifts in production by which alone the present surplus problem could be adjusted. The policy statement adopted said, in part:

"The most immediate problem confronting agricultural producers at the present time concerns the disposal of present heavy surpluses of certain commodities of great importance in world trade, and in this regard I.F.A.P. recommends that governments of the countries possessing unwieldy surpluses consider and put into effect programs designed to bring about a shift in production away from the production of crops and livestock products now in surplus in these countries and toward the production of products in greater demand in their home markets."

The production of such crops as cotton, grain and potatoes should be reduced and production increased for such commodities as animal protein foods not in surplus. It is believed that the outstanding aspect of the present farm situation is the existence of surpluses of certain commodities but a more important problem, it was believed, "consists in the fact that the world's capacity to produce agricultural products has, for the moment at least, outstripped the effective demand for them." The long-term solution to the problem of imbalance between effective demand and productive capacity could only be found in expanded markets. At the present time, however, it was believed that prospects are not bright for much of an expansion of markets in either the developed importing countries or in the underdeveloped countries.

The organization concluded that farm and trade policies of individual governments often conflict and cause hardship to farmers of other countries.

## NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

ALWAYS LOOK TO IMPERIAL FOR THE BEST

"I.F.A.P.," said the report, "is convinced that unco-ordinated national measures have contributed and are likely to continue to contribute to the accumulation of excessive stocks and to instability in world market prices. It feels, therefore, that effective inter-governmental co-operation during this transitional period is urgently required."

A progressive reduction in trade barriers was necessary including full convertibility of national currencies. Governments were urged to consult with each other by means of existing international organizations with a view to bringing about the disposal of present surpluses without causing economic damage to the world.

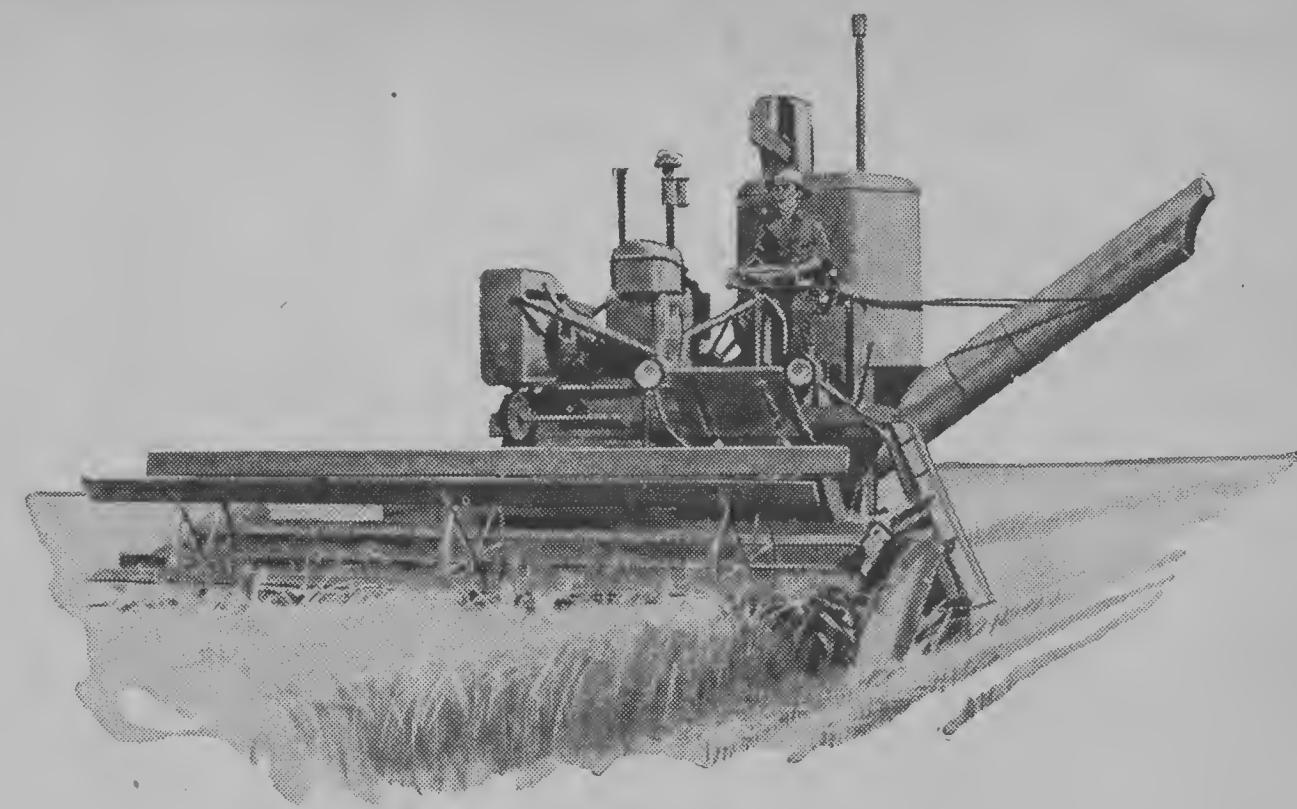
The international farm organization again stated its faith in intergovernmental commodity agreements and urged that the question of a world food reserve be kept under active consideration. A persistent fear exists that governments holding huge surplus stocks may dump them on the world market and cause serious declines in farm prices everywhere. This fear will persist as long as the surpluses exist.

Allan B. Kline, Vinton, Iowa, was re-elected president of the organization. G. J. Rossouw, South Africa, is first vice-president; Andreas Hermes, Germany, second vice-president; and John Andrew, New Zealand, third vice-president. The next I.F.A.P. conference will be held in Rome, Italy, in September, 1955, unless the proposed location is changed by the executive committee.

Speaking of the Kenya Conference on his return, Dr. H. H. Hannam, president of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, said that the general feeling of the conference respecting surpluses was well summed up by W. J. Ball, Regina, president of the Saskatchewan Federation of Agriculture, and chairman this year of the I.F.A.P. Policy Committee. Mr. Ball said: "The end solution must be in finding outlets to the people of the world whose backs are cold and whose bellies are empty. We must accept rising production as a blessing and not as a curse."

Of Kenya, Dr. Hannam called attention to the fact that it is a small country, only two-and-a-half times the size of the British Isles, and almost exclusively agricultural, with rich soil resources. Its population is mixed, including over five million Africans, 90,000 Asians — mostly Indians, 30,000 Europeans, and 35,000 others. The climate is moderate and excellent with an altitude varying from sea level to 9,000 feet in a ranching area. Livestock require no stabling and the variation in altitude and temperature permit all kinds of fruits to be grown. At Nairobi, the capital, at an altitude of 5,300 feet, the temperature varies from 50 to 80 degrees the year round and flowers and shrubs bloom profusely at all seasons.

The farming industry is efficient, and European farmers and landowners occupy the greater part of the farm land. Farms are from 300 to 100,000 acres in extent. Africans also do excellent farming on the many reserves. European farmers do practically all of their business through modern co-operative organizations which are general.

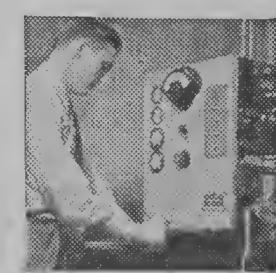


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## NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

Canadian  
Net Farm Income

DR. E. C. HOPE, economist for the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, has recently calculated Canadian net farm income for the last five years in terms of constant 1935-39 dollars, which indicates that the real net farm income in 1953 was ten per cent lower than in 1952, and 25 per cent lower than the peak year of 1951.

If the net farm income figure for 1949 is taken as 100, the net farm income for 1952, which was almost exactly the same as for 1949, has a value of only 86. In other words, the farmer's income dollar has become 14 cents less valuable between 1949 and 1952. In other words, total net farm income of \$1,650 million in 1949 was the equivalent of \$947 million in 1935-39 dollars. In 1950, \$1,452 million were only worth \$818 million in 1935-39 dollars, while in 1952, it took \$1,657 million to be worth the same amount (\$814 million) of 1935-39 dollars.

Between 1935-39 and 1949, the index number for farm cost of living rose 73.2 per cent. By 1952 this higher figure had been increased by 17.5 per cent (or 30.4 per cent of the original base of 100). V

New Director  
Production Service

THE position of Director of the Production Service, Canada Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, became vacant recently with the death of Nelson Young. S. C. Barry has now been named Director, and on his appointment stepped from the position of Chief of the Livestock and Poultry Division in the federal Marketing Service.

Born in 1903, Mr. Barry has been in the service of the Department since 1925. He is a graduate of the University of British Columbia, and during his service with the Department has been closely associated with the production and marketing of livestock and poultry. V

Revolution  
In Scotland

THE tractor is driving the Clydesdale horse out of Scotland today. According to a recent report by a Scottish journalist, there are only 50 heavy horses in Edinburgh, 10 in Perth, and a few score in Glasgow. The proud Clydesdale Horse Society is reduced to efforts to convince farmers that the horse is still an economic source of power for short hauls and on limited acreages.

Today there are about 50,000 tractors used in Scotland. The statement is made that Scotland, considering the acreage under cultivation, is the most highly mechanized farming country in the world. In the early '20's Scottish farms were worked by nearly 250,000 horses, and the famous Glasgow Stallion Show was one of the premier livestock events throughout the world.

Reason for this decline in numbers amounts in the long run to the fact that, at today's prices, it would cost Scotland's farmers £8 million to feed the horses they once maintained. V

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## NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

Get It  
At a Glance

*A brief look at agriculture in Canada and other countries of the world*

An attractive and comprehensive bulletin entitled "Beekeeping in Saskatchewan," has been recently issued by the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture. It is well illustrated and will be helpful to experienced as well as beginners in beekeeping. ✓

Despite wheat acreage reduction in the United States, another billion-bushel crop may be in prospect. ✓

The Midwestern Democratic Committee Conference meeting in Des Moines, Iowa, last month issued a statement which said in part: "In truth and in fact a five-cents-per-pound increase in the price of coffee will take more out of the American housewife's pocketbook in one year than the entire cost of maintaining the Democratic farm program since its inception." ✓

Canada's output of creamery butter in May amounted to 33.4 million pounds, or two per cent less than in May, 1953. Total for the five months January to May, however, increased three per cent over last year. ✓

Eggs sold during the month of April by producers totalled 29.5 million dozen. Total production amounted to 38.2 million dozen of which producers themselves ate 5.1 million dozen. During the month 1.5 million pounds of frozen eggs were processed. ✓

The American Institute of Co-operation will hold its 26th annual session at Cornell University, New York State, August 15-19. ✓

The Dutch Control Board for Feeds has barred the use of antibiotics in livestock feeds. Dutch veterinarians, biologists, and breeders hold that the general use of antibiotics disturbs the biological balance of animals, upsets breeding patterns, and eliminates beneficial effects of selection. ✓

Dressed hogs on the Toronto market on June 1 reached a seasonal high to that date of \$39.50 per hundred pounds dressed. ✓

Poultry meat in 1953 was secured from 74.1 million birds weighing 385 million pounds and worth \$160.4 million. Of these totals producers themselves consumed 10.8 million birds weighing 54.4 million pounds and worth \$21 million. The balance were sold. ✓

A Russian land army of 100,000 workers equipped with 20,000 tractors and other equipment is expected this year to plow up 32 million acres of virgin soil in Kazakhstan, the Urals, Siberia, and the Volga steppes, and next year to add nearly 20 million tons of bread grains to Russian production. ✓

Saskatchewan credit unions, as of March 31, had combined assets of nearly \$29 million. Loans in force were \$19.2 million. Total membership increased by 5,145 and the 269 credit unions in operation had an average membership of 262. ✓

A recent United Nations study of trade between Asia and Europe concludes that the farmers of Asia greatly need stabilized prices for the farm products which move in international trade. Such stabilization would provide a substantial stimulus to long-term improvement in Asian agriculture. The study favors bilateral agreements containing long-term purchase and price stabilization provisions. ✓

India will not take her full quota of nearly 37 million bushels of wheat under the International Wheat Agreement this year. She had purchased only 345,000 bushels, and says that she has enough wheat on hand and will need no further imports. ✓

In 1953 total egg production in Canada amounted to 353,199,000 dozens of eggs. Of these 229 million dozen were sold for market, 53 million dozen were used for food by producers, and 10 million dozen were used for hatching purposes. The total value of eggs last year is estimated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at \$164.5 million. ✓

U.S. farmers during the first five months of 1954 received \$10.3 billion from marketings, or four per cent less than for the same five months last year. Livestock receipts were \$7 billion, or about the same as a year ago, but crop receipts were down ten per cent at \$3.3 billion. ✓

The University of Sydney, Australia, has recently announced gifts totalling £220,000 for animal husbandry research alone. Approximately two-thirds of this amount came from three Commonwealth boards (for wool, meat and dairy produce), and the remainder from individuals and commercial concerns. ✓

The total of all meats in stock at June 1, 1954, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, amounted to 80,343,000 pounds. This was 31.3 million pounds less than a year ago. This amount included 50.9 million pounds of meat in cold storage, 18.2 million pounds of fresh meats, and 11.9 million pounds of meat cured and in cure. ✓

There are three breeds of cattle kept in the Netherlands—the black and white (Friesians), the red and white, and black-white face Groninger. There are 27,000 breeders of the black and white cattle, 15,600 of the red and white, and 1,000 breeders of the black-white face cattle. All of these breeders are distributed throughout some 700 local breeding societies. ✓

Australian meat production increased 11.1 per cent last year over 1952 and totalled 1,156,600 tons (bone-in weight). New South Wales produced nearly one-third of the grand total; Queensland something less than one-third; Victoria about one-quarter; and South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania combined, about two-thirds as much as Victoria. ✓



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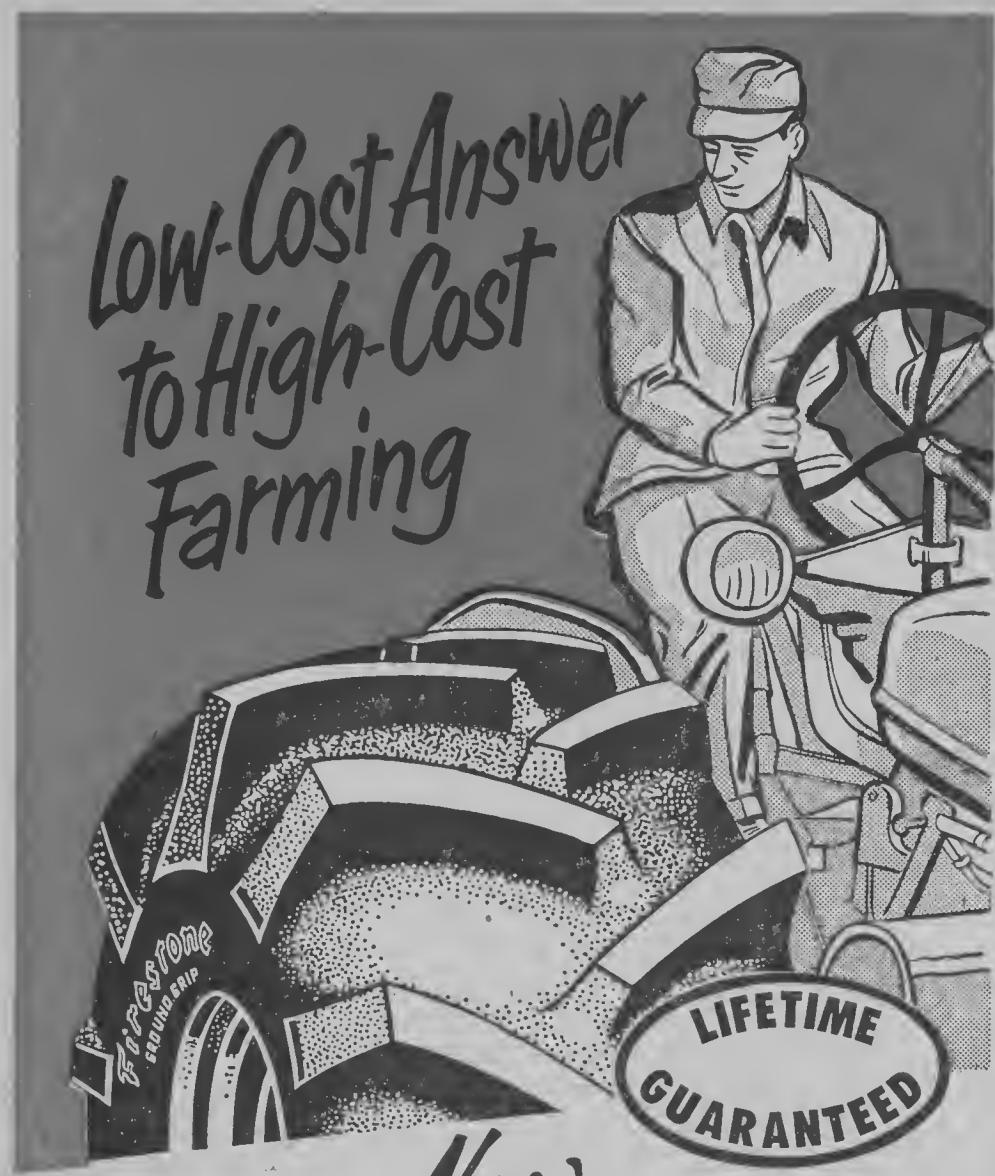
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## Grass for Cheaper Feed

Periodic renovation of pasture can increase yields and result in lower production costs

**G**RASS has been called the cheapest cattle feed that can be grown on the farm; and one agricultural college says that pastures represent the district's biggest undeveloped natural resource.

The University of Wisconsin says that pasture yields can be increased up to 500 per cent, and this within a year or two. This can be done by considering pasture as a crop, and through this, renovating it periodically.

It pays to pick a good field, preferably close to the barn if for a dairy herd, and close to the farm pond, or some other good water supply. If the field has a good sod already, renovation isn't difficult. It means harrowing to work up a seedbed, and working in some fertilizer, and then seeding it again. If fencing is convenient and cheap, rotational grazing, in two or three fields, will help to maintain a good growth and allow the clovers to reseed themselves. Once the stand of grass is established, plenty of early grazing will encourage the clovers to develop in place of poor grasses, but grazing must be reduced late in the fall. The plants must store up strength for the winter then, so they will be vigorous and ready for an early start the next spring.

Although pasture does not need to be irrigated to produce heavy yields, one such field at the Swift Current Experimental Station produced over 10,000 pounds of forage per acre in 1952, and again in 1953. This was enough feed to pasture 14 sheep for over 150 days, and as well, to put up half a ton of hay.

The mixture producing this high-yielding pasture consisted of intermediate wheatgrass, alfalfa, and white clover. In pastures where brome grass, timothy, Russian wild ryegrass, crested wheatgrass, and Reed canary grass replaced intermediate wheatgrass in the mixture, the yields were 9,300,

8,800, 8,600, 7,500, and 7,500 pounds per acre respectively. The protein content of the pasture was high, too. ✓

### Pasture For Pigs

**H**OOGS will make good use of pasture, for they will put on cheaper gains while grazing and are likely to produce leaner cuts of pork. Swine feeding trials have shown that hogs on good pasture require five to ten per cent less grain and 30 to 40 per cent less protein supplement, to make the same gains as pigs not on pasture. Obviously, this makes it well worth while to go to the extra expense of fencing some pasture for the swine herd.

Pigs on pasture will need a ready supply of water at all times, and an automatic waterer can provide this. If natural shelter is not available in the form of brush, colony houses work in well for summer shade. Shelter should be convenient to where the pigs feed, or they may spend too much time in the sun and suffer from sunburn or sunscald. Blistered pigs should be well treated with oil of some kind: mineral oil will be found suitable. ✓

### Cross-Bred Lambs Excel

**C**RASS-BRED lambs, from Cheviot rams and Leicester ewes, gain weight faster and produce better carcasses than purebred lambs of either breed, says the Canada Department of Agriculture. In trials, cross-breds outweighed the purebreds by one-fifth of a pound at birth; 1.7 pounds at four weeks and by three pounds at weaning time. More twins were born when the Cheviot ram was crossed on the Leicester ewe, while in the reverse cross, some lambing difficulties were noted.

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## LIVESTOCK

In further cross-bred tests with Suffolks, Shropshires and Southdowns, the Southdown-sired lambs were superior to all others in carcass quality, but tended to be finished at rather lighter weights. The lambs sired by Suffolk rams gained 12 to 15 per cent faster than did those sired by Shropshire and Southdown rams, while Shropshire-sired lambs were intermediate in most respects. V

### More Milk Without Mastitis

MASTITIS is the most prevalent and costly disease of dairy cows. R. P. Dixon, supervisor of dairy cattle improvement in Alberta, has outlined ten simple steps which are helpful in controlling it.

Prepare each cow for milking, by washing the udder and teat with a mild disinfectant, using disposable paper towels or individual udder cloths. Use a strip cup on each cow at each milking, and dip the teat cups in a mild disinfectant and rinse, after use on each cow. Operate the machine at the speed and vacuum level specified by the manufacturer; keep the teat cup inflations in good condition, and remove the milker from each cow as soon as she is milked out.

Mastitis-infected cows can be milked last, and animals severely infected should be isolated from the rest of the herd. Clean and sterilize inflations following each milking; and finally, keep the barn in sanitary condition, and the lots free from mud.

Mr. Dixon concludes that mastitis-free herds produce more milk and a lower bacteria count. This could well mean the difference between meeting, or failing to meet, fluid milk market requirements. V

### Early Weaning For Pigs

DR. E. W. CRAMPTON, Macdonald College, Quebec, has demonstrated that young pigs, weaned at ten days old and put on a dry ration, have a good chance of learning how to eat the dry feed and can be brought to a weaning age of 56 days, weighing just as much, or more, than pigs brought to that age on the sow.

Noting that the average 56-day weaning weight of sow-nursed pigs in the piggery at the College is 30 pounds, the ration he prepared brought the early weaned pigs to as much as 33 pounds in 56 days. Dr. Crampton says that the gains made by the early weaned pigs were above those considered normal for comparable sow-nursed pigs.

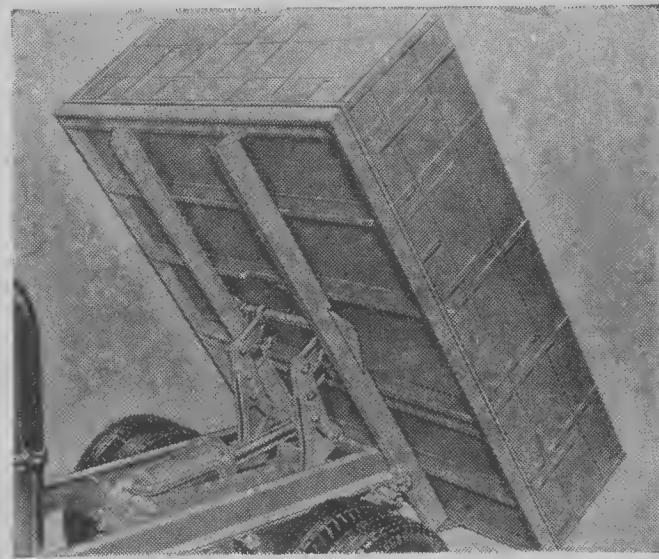
In further tests, certain oils were added to the ration, and it was shown that gains of the early weaned pigs could be still further increased. However, Dr. Crampton doubted if such a ration, prepared commercially and subjected to usual warehouse and barn storage for as long as 30 days, would fully retain its original nutritive value. Again, he questioned whether feeding equipment in which such rations had been used, could be satisfactorily cleaned without the use of facilities not usually found in hog barns. Failure to clean might be expected to invite diarrhea, he concluded. V

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## FIELD



[Guide photos]

## Grass Silage Nutritious Feed

*As a source of palatable, nutritious feed, grass silage has much to recommend it*

THROUGHOUT the agricultural history of western Canada silage has been almost unknown on the great majority of farms, and most farmers have not been anxious to know anything more about it.

However, during the past few years this attitude has been changing gradually, as more farmers now are ensiling grasses, legumes and cereal crops. Still greater use probably will be made in the future of this method of preserving feed for winter use.

One of the big advantages of ensiling is that feed can be put up under weather conditions that are unfavorable, or even impossible, for haying, says W. J. White, Forage Crops Laboratory, Saskatoon. In the drier, open

grow well in many areas, reduced the use of silage. Experience in recent years has shown that, in general, any crop which can be put up as hay, can be ensiled satisfactorily.

It is, however, generally advisable to use a grass-legume mixture, or a cereal-legume mixture, rather than a legume alone. An alternative is to add about 100 pounds of chopped grain to each ton of legume silage as it is ensiled. In using sweet clover, care should be taken to avoid feeding large amounts of moldy and dark brown silage, as sweet clover disease can result from such feeding.

Freezing has been considered to be one of the disadvantages of silage. However, a questionnaire was sent to a number of Saskatchewan farmers who have put up silage in recent years, and it was found that none of them regarded freezing as a serious problem.

Ensiling has a place on many western Canadian farms, as a means of storing feed for winter use. Serious losses can result however, from following incorrect methods; and it is well to consult experimental stations, or your provincial university, before beginning on it for the first time. V



Manitoba Department of Agriculture grass silage field day on the farm of John Murta, Graysville, Man.

prairies, where there is less trouble curing hay than in rainier regions, it is likely that silage has little advantage over hay.

An important factor in making silage more acceptable is the reduction in the amount of labor required to put it up. Silage making can be completely mechanized, with forage harvesters and other mechanical equipment.

For many years, corn and sunflowers were regarded as the standard silage crops, but the fact that they did not

## Better Hay From Grain Crops

VERY often cereal hay crops are cut when other jobs are not too pressing, rather than when they have reached optimum nutritive content. Actually, the time of cutting should depend on the class of stock to which the crop is to be fed: for milk cows the best time for cutting is shortly after it has headed, and while it is still in the flower stage, but for beef cattle and sheep, it is better cut later, in the dough stage.

The total yield of hay from a cereal crop varies very little from flowering to dough stage. At the flowering stage, the protein content is higher than in the milk and dough stages, while the carbohydrate content is lower. Analyses at the Experimental Station, Swift Current, Saskatchewan, revealed that oats in the flowering stage contained 15.4 per cent protein while in the early dough stage the protein was

## FIELD

down to 11.4 per cent. The carbohydrate content, on the other hand, was 42.8 per cent in the flowering stage and was up to 47.9 per cent in the early dough stage.

The time to cut therefore, depends on whether high, or low, protein feed is required.

When the crop is threshed, the greener the straw the better feed it makes; and it is sometimes worthwhile to cut the crop a little on the green side if the straw is to be used for feed. Oats and barley straw provide a roughage that is high in carbohydrates, but low in protein.

If crops are hail damaged to the point where they are likely to be cut for feed, immediate cutting will provide better roughage than if the field is left for some days.

### Killing Off The Cutworms

TWO species of cutworms—the "red-backed" and the "pale western" are responsible for most of the cutworm damage in the West.

As the name suggests, the two species can be separated by differences in appearance. Also, the habitat of one does not overlap very much with the other. The red-backed cutworm prefers moister areas, such as the park-belt and foothills, the pale western cutworm prefers dry plains.

The red-backed cutworm feeds above ground, and can be controlled, therefore, with poison baits. The recommended bait consists of 25 pounds of bran moistened by two-fifths of a pint of either chlordane emulsion (from a formulation containing 10 pounds of emulsion per gallon), or aldrin emulsion (2½ pounds emulsion per gallon), mixed with 2½ gallons of water. For small areas, mix 1 gallon of bran with 2 tablespoonfuls of chlordane, or aldrin, emulsion in 2 pints of water, to cover 400 square yards. Paris green can be substituted for the chlordane, or aldrin, at the rate of 1 pound in the larger quantity, or 2 tablespoonfuls in the small.

Some control of pale western cutworms is gained by cultivating the summerfallow in late July and leaving it undisturbed until mid-September. Crusting of the soil surface prevents the moth from laying her eggs. If a heavy weed growth develops it will be necessary to consider the probable damage from cutworms against the loss of moisture in the soil.

Investigational work at Lethbridge and Saskatoon indicates that low-pressure spraying with a low-volume, boom sprayer, which delivers four gallons of water emulsion per acre, is effective in the control of pale western cutworms. This procedure, using 1½ pounds of chlordane per acre, reduced cutworm population by 80 per cent on quarter-acre test plots. Toxaphene, at two pounds, costs about the same, but was not as effective. Large fields sprayed near Rosetown, in 1951, suffered no damage after being treated with one pound of chlordane.

The chief value of chlordane spraying is likely to be found when controlling outbreaks in seeded fields. Prompt spraying when the crop begins to thin will give control. If a stand is destroyed, spraying with chlordane will permit immediate re-seeding.



## RHINITIS can be Controlled

### A report from Canada Livestock Products

During the past three years, Rhinitis in its various forms has reached epidemic proportions.

There has been a wide variation of opinions as to the cause and control. Many investigators and some extension workers have advanced the opinion that there is no known cure or control. Farmers have been advised to sell all their hogs, clean up and get out of business for a while.

To stockmen, this just did not make sense. Livestock is born to live and go to market. It is the job of stockmen to see that it does. One group decided that something should be done about Rhinitis. They set up a program to investigate its cause, and at the same time, find a treatment for its control. The results have been most gratifying.

To date no scientist has yet come up with the germ that is supposed to cause the disease. For that reason, we question the existence of such a germ or virus.

#### 400 Pigs Treated In Tests

Canada Livestock Products are working in co-operation with M & M Livestock Products Company of Eagle Grove, Iowa, who, at their Research Farm have tested and passed through the pens over 400 head of research animals. From these animals we have learned that nutrition plays a major part in the control of Rhinitis. The results of our tests show that Rhinitis can be controlled by correct nutrition, management and the application of convenient economical measures.

The deformity of the snout appears to be caused by secondary invaders, mostly of the necrosis family. For example, the hog lives all his life with his nose on the ground and constantly inhales common low level harnyard infections. Low vitality, due to faulty nutrition, can set the stage so that the delicate membrane in the nostril may pick up germs that start a necrosis condition which brings about a deformed head. The infection of the nose has not been difficult to control, and when caught in early stages, it can be arrested before deformity takes place. Infected animals entering the M & M Research Station are treated according to the stage which Rhinitis may have reached. Then they are fed out to market and sold to a Government-inspected packing plant. The records of this plant, as well as ours, are open to inspection. They prove, that regardless of the degree of deformity, the heads were freed from the infection that was once there. Out of several hundred hogs marketed, there has not been one condemnation.

The treatment developed by M & M Livestock Products Company and Canada Livestock Products has proved, at the research farm (over 400 pigs), that Rhinitis can be controlled. In addition, hundreds of farmers who have followed our plan have successfully licked Rhinitis.

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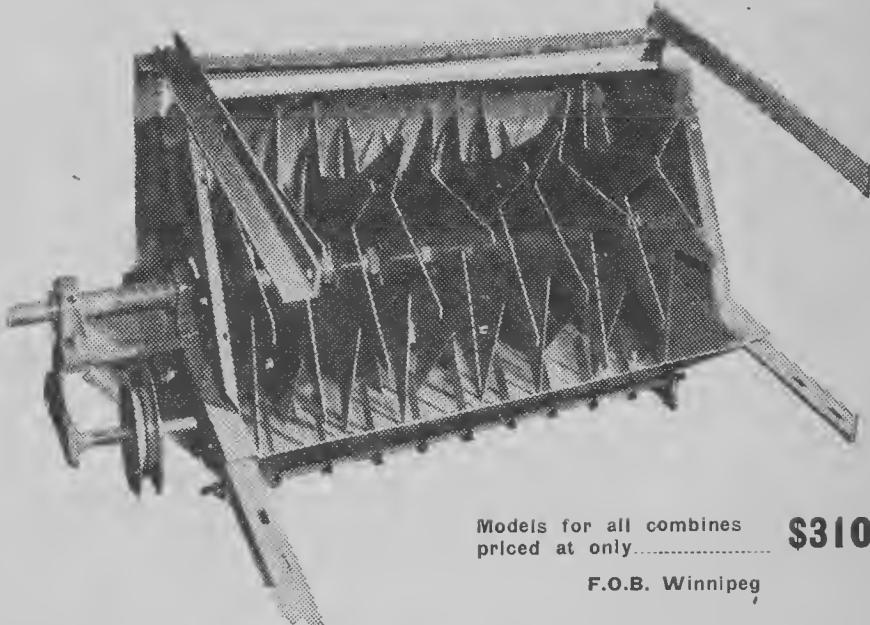
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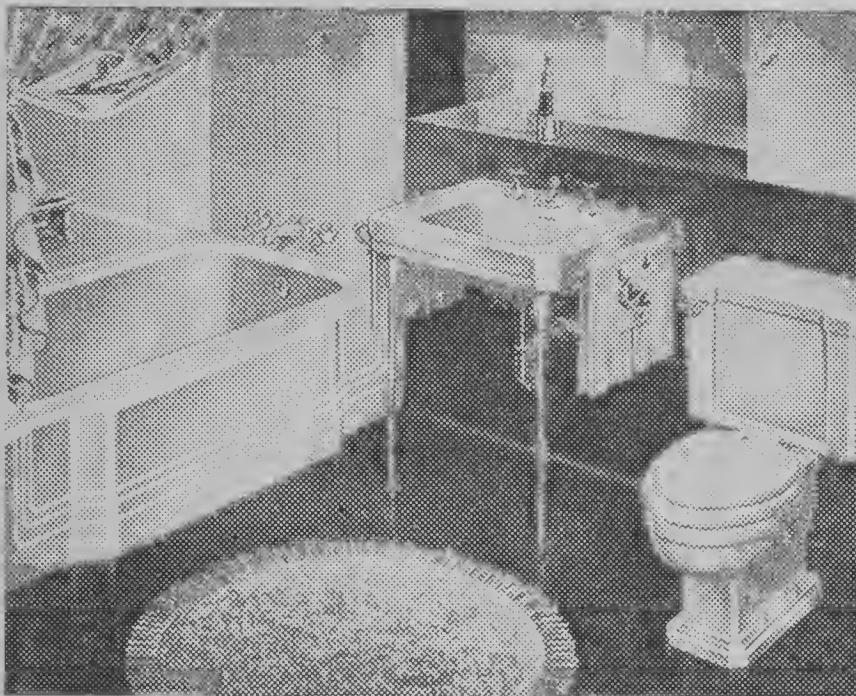
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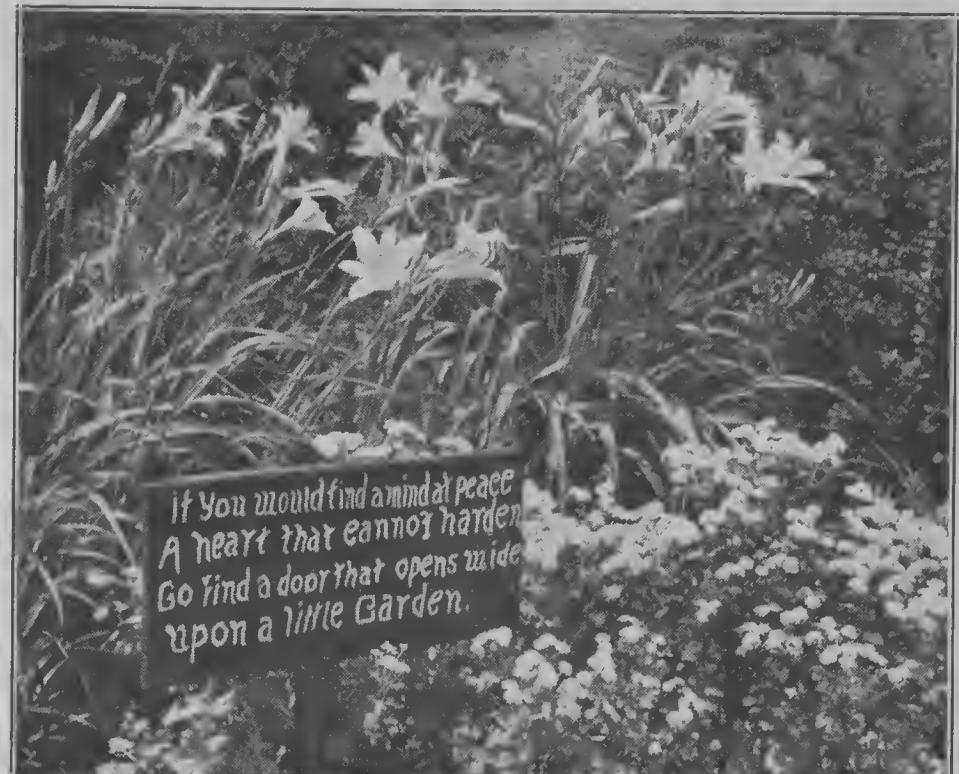


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## HORTICULTURE



[Luoma photo]

This is a favorite verse of thousands of gardeners, and this one seems to want others to know about it, too.

### Winter Losses

WHEN mid-July comes around, all orchard cultivation should have stopped in most parts of the prairie provinces. In our rigorous climate winter losses of trees are likely to be severe if they have been allowed to grow with any vigor late in the season. Sometimes, if the weather is warm in the fall and there is plenty of moisture, it is pretty difficult to stop late growth. In such instances the trees get no adequate opportunity to harden off and mature their wood for the winter. Losses are almost certain to result.

Losses of this kind, in addition to other winter losses from the drying effect of very cold weather or early and late frosts, make fruit growing in most parts of the prairies, especially where varieties are not fully hardy, a process that needs very careful watching.

The very unusual autumn of 1953 and the equally unusual spring of 1954 seem to have produced an unusually heavy loss of plants.

The writer's garden has reflected these losses. Peony bushes which last year had a fine showing of large blooms and were very vigorous seem this year to be struggling even to make a presentable appearance. One clump, last year of good size, has thrown up only one stalk this year. A Betty Bland rose in an exposed position which had come through every previous year had to struggle this spring to put a few sprouts from the base of two or three stalks. Likewise, a tamarisk killed back almost entirely this year. Tulips that were beginning to make a brave show about Good Friday were apparently discouraged by the long, cool spell that followed, and while the later ones made a brave show, the earlier ones failed to recover entirely from their setback. A group of three spirea on the west side of the house which had never been especially vigorous or satisfying, this year almost gave up the ghost. A clump of sunburst chrysanthemum, which in each of the last two years has presented a magnificent mass of golden bloom,

seems now to have been reduced to a few stalks. Even the annual crop of maple and elm seedlings that are bound to appear in an area handicapped by too much shade seem half-discouraged and much less eager to cover all available space in early June than in other years. V

### Maleic Hydrazide Slows Growth

FARMERS who like a nice lawn but find that cutting it frequently when growth is rapid in the spring is an inconvenient task when other farm work is heavy, may find a friend in a comparatively new chemical in Canada, maleic hydrazide.

Like others of the very large family of chemicals which have been found useful for one purpose or another in recent years, not everything is yet known about this chemical. It is known that it may be helpful in the production of certain crops where it is advantageous to slow down the rate of growth. It has, for example, been found useful in preventing premature sprouting of vegetables in storage which is especially serious with potatoes and other root crops.

For this purpose it is applied as a spray to the growing plants three or four weeks before harvest. It only takes three or four pounds of the active chemical per acre dissolved in 50 to 100 gallons of water, depending on the size of the plants that are to be treated. Potatoes are best sprayed soon after they reach full bloom.

The Experimental Station at Morden says that not all varieties respond favorably to this chemical. The hard winter onions keep very well after treatment but the softer varieties, such as sweet Spanish, do not store as well after spraying.

On lawn grass, spraying with four pounds per acre in 50 gallons of water definitely retards growth and cuts down the amount of mowing needed. It may be necessary to spray two or three times during the season, but the time required for spraying will be more than repaid by the time saved in mowing. V

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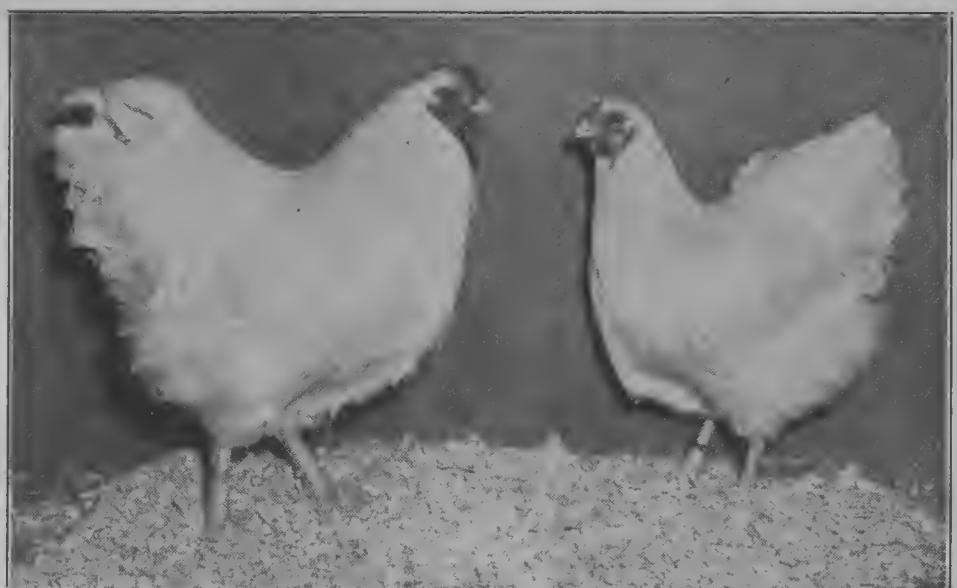
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## New Opportunities For Poultry Breeders

The group system offers small flock owners an opportunity to make rapid progress in developing better birds

TEN years ago, a few poultrymen in the province of Quebec put into practice a new plan to improve their flocks. It was carried out under the National Poultry Breeding Program, but instead of each breeder working on a separate strain of birds, members of the group all used birds of the same strain. They trapnested their birds according to R.O.P. regulations, and later their records were pooled and analyzed by the Poultry Production Service of the Canada Department of Agriculture.

Since each flock was maintained on a different farm, and under different management conditions, it was intended to provide an excellent test as to how birds of identical breeding responded to various environments. As well, each breeder became part of a large breeding program, without enlarging his own poultry plant. It was said that improvement in the strain would be more rapid, if selection was based on 15 or 20 sires in a group, rather than on three or four individual units, with four or five sires each.

The system proved so successful, that further groups (usually of about four members), have been formed in Quebec, and in the past couple of years, it has spread to western Canada. The first one formed in Quebec was started under the leadership of a professor at Oka Agricultural College, and is known as the Group d'Oka. This group has developed an excellent strain of Barred Rocks. A second group is developing a Light Sussex strain to meet the demand for good stock of this breed, while a third group is emphasizing meat characteristics. The Dominant White x Barred Rock broiler chicks they are breeding are said to be popular now with commercial broiler growers.

Manitoba breeders already have formed three groups, one each with White Leghorns, Barred Rocks and Light Sussex. The Saskatchewan groups have begun work with strains of Light Sussex and White Rock.

Canada is the first country to adopt this group system of poultry breeding.

which promises new help for those attempting to improve poultry breeding stock. V

### Clean Range For Chickens

GROWING chickens need clean range. This means range that did not have birds running over it the previous year. Such soil is a source of disease infection. The application of lime and other disinfectants, to the infected soil, is of little value, says the University of Saskatchewan. Consequently, rotation of yards is the only solution to this problem.

If birds run in the barnyard, disease control is difficult, while if turkeys and chickens are allowed to run together, danger of disease increases. If fenced yards are provided, they can be arranged best, if at least two are available. While the birds use one yard, the other can be left vacant and be prepared for the following year.

Since baby chicks hatched in an incubator are free from disease, with very few exceptions, the way to keep them healthy is to prevent them from coming into contact with diseases. V

### Refrigeration For Eggs

JUST as refrigeration is required on dairy farms in some districts, to cool the milk after it comes from the cow, one poultry co-operative association in California now insists that members gather eggs three times a day and place them in a cool room having some sort of a cooling device. When this policy was begun in 1949, an immediate improvement in egg quality was noticeable.

Tests at the Washington State College showed that, with adequate farm refrigeration, eggs can be held on the farm up to seven days, and still be marketed in as good condition, or better, than eggs held only three days on the farm, without refrigeration. This indicates the increasing part that refrigeration will probably play on poultry farms in the future. V

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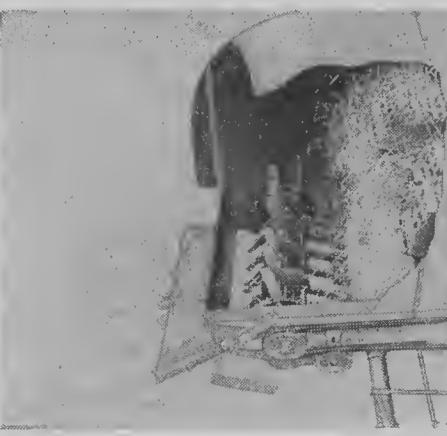
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**10 POPULAR SHADES**

## WHAT'S NEW



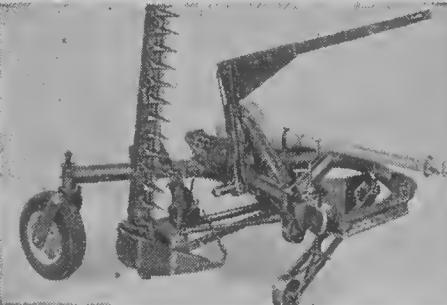
A steel garage door like this can be installed in 15 minutes by almost anyone, it is said, because the hardware parts are factory assembled into two hardware sections bolted to the door and jamb. Tracks are hung by adjustable hangers. (Steel Door Corporation.) (38) V.



This hammer-mill-type straw-chopper available for John Deere No. 55 and No. 65 combines, is said to distribute the straw in an even layer over the ground. (John Deere.) (39) V.



The auxiliary step shown here automatically adjusts to ladder size and provides a safe, comfortable working platform. (Chesley-Sarnes of Canada Ltd.) (40) V



The semi-mounted mower shown above, fits more than 20 different tractors, and hitches with only two bolts, so the tractor can be quickly freed for other work. (New Idea Farm Equipment Co.) (41) V

For further information about any item mentioned in this column, write to What's New Department, The Country Guide, 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg, giving the key number shown in parenthesis at the end of each item, as—(17).

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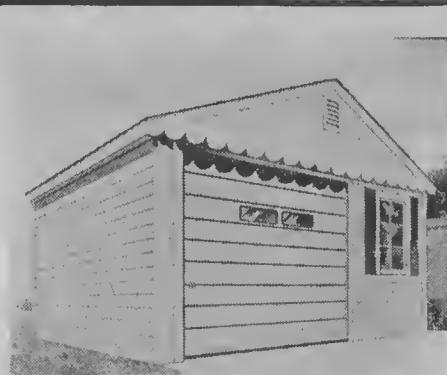
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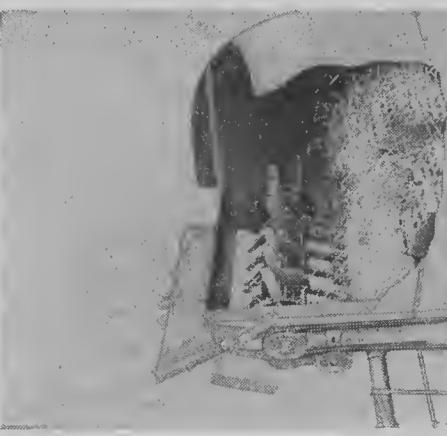
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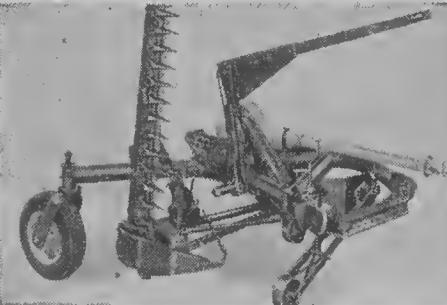
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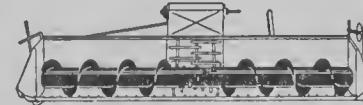
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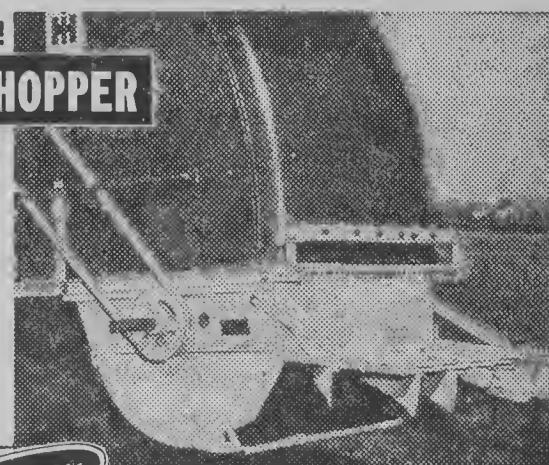
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## FARM YOUNG PEOPLE

### 4-H Camp In Iowa

*This camp was much like camps in Canada, where the 4-H club members enjoy a summer outing*

THIS month The Country Guide reports on a visit to a 4-H club camp in the mid-western United States, near Mason City, Iowa. The camp was attended by 211 boys and 241 girls who had won the honor of representing their individual clubs in 11 different counties of the state, and who were out to enjoy every minute and every one of the many different activities during the three days they were there.

With the camp located on the tree-sheltered shore of Clear Lake, the



*These boys hear an outline of the activities planned for their stay at camp.*

three-day outing meant an active round of games and instruction for the 452 club members. Averaging about 15 years of age, they ate in the big dining hall, slept in cabin dormitories containing about 20 beds; and from 6:40 in the morning until late in the evening, they were on the go. Organized activities took them boating and swimming during the day, and learning how to do each safely. They learned useful handicrafts, joined in council meetings to help direct their own camp, and elected members to represent their different groups. They turned in to clean up their own cabins, came out to prayer services, and some even put on skits to entertain the others in the auditorium. Finally, to complete the evenings, they gathered around the campfire to sing their favorite songs.

D. C. Foster, assistant director of extension, Manitoba Department of Agriculture, visited the camp, too, and brought back to Canada some interesting observations.

First of all, he said, with the same mottoes, the same 4-H pledge, and much the same enthusiasm for the day's activities, it just as easily could have been a camp at Gimli, Dauphin, Brandon, or Killarney that he was visiting.

Commenting on 4-H activities in Iowa, he said that leaders there are becoming very conscious of the place the United States is playing

among the nations of the world. Members are hearing much more about national and international affairs than ever before, so they will develop a greater appreciation of the problems of different countries. The leaders want these young people to be better equipped to live in a world made up of many people and many different points of view.

Noting the intense interest in 4-H club work in that predominantly agricultural state, Mr. Foster said that 1,300 active 4-H boys' clubs are listed in Iowa, and another 1,500 home economics clubs, with a total membership of 46,000 boys and girls. By comparison, Manitoba has 415 boys' 4-H clubs and 272 home economics clubs. To compare the two, he lists the number of farm families in the corn belt state as 180,000, while Manitoba has about 50,000.

### More Leadership Interest

FOUR-H club work in 1953 was marked by a noticeable increase in parent interest and local leadership, together with wider support from farm organizations and business companies, said E. F. Pineau, Canada Department of Agriculture, who was President of the Canadian Council of 4-H Clubs during the year. He pointed out that across Canada, over 8,000 farmers, housewives, school teachers and others are serving in a voluntary way as leaders of 4-H clubs. One of the main objectives of club work has been the development of leadership on the part of members, and the local leader plays a key part in achieving this objective.

### Planting Trees At 10 Years Old

A 17-YEAR-OLD Missouri farm youth, Arnold Smith, has planted nearly 500,000 pine seedlings in his seven years of 4-H club forestry work. Most of them have gone onto land belonging to him or his family, but a few went across the road or down the highway to neighbors who were also interested. Using a mechanical planter which he, his father and grandfather designed and built, he is rapidly covering land that was formerly a wasteland of sedge and scrubby hardwoods.

His new forest has already begun to pay for itself. Since it is in an open range country, his own three 40-acre woodlots have to be fenced. But since it is protected, he takes turpentine from the older trees to gain some cash income, and as well, sells cull trees, posts and pulpwood. Fire is a constant menace so equipment to fight it is always kept on hand. He cuts fire lands through his woods, and keeps these freshly plowed to prevent the accumulation of dead leaves and grasses that would destroy their usefulness.



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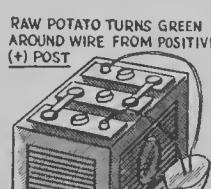
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## WORKSHOP

### Handy Ideas For Midsummer

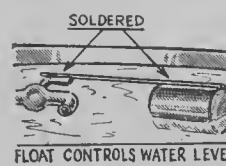
Readers sent in ideas which they found useful in gardening, haying and livestock care

**Polarity Test.** When the polarity marks on battery posts (or other direct current devices) become obliterated,



the polarity may be found by connecting a wire to each post and sticking the other ends into a raw potato, about  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch apart. After about a minute a green coloration will appear in the potato near the end of the wire that is connected to the positive post.—O.T., Man.

**Automatic Tank Waterer.** If you can arrange tap water at the trough, you can turn it on and off by fastening the faucet in



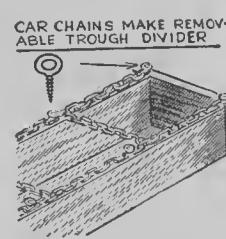
a horizontal position, and soldering or brazing it to a one-gallon, air-tight bucket. As the water goes down, the tap will turn on, and will turn off as the water rises. The faucet must be quick acting.—H.E.F.

**Piling Baled Hay.** I pile my baled hay in the manner shown in the illustration and

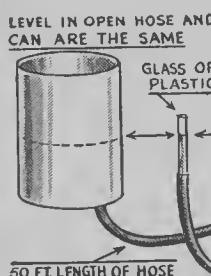


find that it will turn even the hardest rain. I have surprisingly little spoilage.—V.I.S.

**Hog-Trough Divider.** To keep the hogs from fighting over their feed, I took an old car chain and laid it over the trough. I put screw eyes through the links at tension points. Sideways the screw eyes hold the link, but if they are turned a quarter turn they will slip through the links, and the chain can be lifted off for easier cleaning of the trough.—A.I.L.



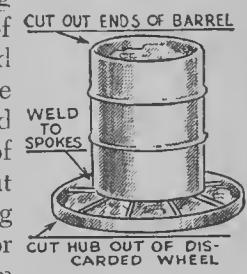
**Water Level Measure.** For a satisfactory instrument for checking levels as a guide for digging drainage, or



irrigation ditches, attach an ordinary garden hose 40 to 50 feet long to the bottom of a five-gallon can, as shown. The hose can be tapped into the can on the side near the bottom. Fill the can with water; and by laying the hose along the ground, the points that are higher or lower than the level of water in the can will be determined. A piece of glass or transparent hosing in the end will help find levels. The water level in the open end, when it is stationary, is exactly the same as the water level in the can.—G.I.D.

**Fly Chaser.** Ropes hung over the door of the barn or milking house will brush flies off the stock as they go in. The ropes should be spaced about three inches apart, and nailed to the header of the doorway.—H.E.F.

**Pig Feeder.** I made a very good pig feeder by cutting both ends out of



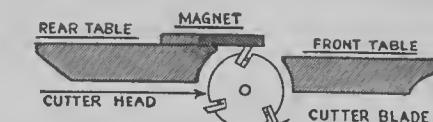
which I had cut the hub. Setting it on a board or concrete platform reduces feed loss.—G.I.S.

**Effective Scarecrow.** For years I have tried to keep birds out of our berry patch, and this scarecrow at last seems to do it. It is just a couple of poles, a wire, and a series of bright rags and flashing, noisy tins.—J.I.H.

**Supporting Tomato Vines.** I support my tomato vines with No. 9 or heavier wire, run through the holes of four or five laths, as shown. This keeps the vines up in the air and sunshine, and does not break or blow over easily.—I.W.D.

**Garden Hose Sprinkler.** A length of old hose with a coupler attached can be converted into a useful sprinkler. Plug the end of the hose and, with a drill or an ice pick, punch the required number of holes for sprinkling. There is usually a natural curl in a piece of hose, so punch the holes in a side that will lie upward.—W.F.S.

**Jointer Table Adjustment.** To true up your jointer, first adjust the rear table. Then take two pieces of straight-



faced magnets, rest them on the rear table, place your knife in position, and the magnet will hold it in line with the table while you tighten the screws.—J.S.D., Alta.



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## Book on Gardening

by F. J. WEIR

"GREEN THUMBS," by Roscoe A. Fillmore (Ryerson, Toronto), gives a wealth of gardening information, of use to new homeowners, experienced gardeners and nurserymen. The author is well fitted to write a book dealing with such a subject, because of varied experience in gardening and nursery work in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Siberia. Experience over many years in propagating, planting and caring for plants has enabled the author to write in a very authoritative, but at the same time, very practical, manner. Technical terms are kept to a minimum.

The reader is impressed throughout the book with the original style in which it is written. One does not read the book quickly, because of the author's practice of using many little tips which he has found so helpful in his own experiences. If it does take longer to read it, every page makes very interesting reading.

Mr. Fillmore deals with all the aspects of gardening in a very thorough manner. Conventional writers have a tendency, when writing on similar topics, to tell how something should be done: Mr. Fillmore tells how it is done. Topics discussed include lawns, foundation plantings, soils, perennials, annuals, vegetables, propagation, etc. The author spends some time with problems such as repairing established lawns, building rock gardens, perennial borders, flagstone walks, diseases and insects.

The chapters dealing with descriptions of plant material are extremely informative. It is difficult to compile a list of plant varieties, because the temptation is always great to include plants seen in other parts of the country. Mr. Fillmore describes only those plants with which he is familiar, and which he knows to be reliably hardy in his own portion of Canada. He gives many helpful suggestions, known only to a man who has been working with plants for most of his life.

The average gardener will get much helpful information on propagation, particularly on some of the lesser-known methods. The author has considerable experience in propagating shrubs by means of green cuttings, a method not employed by enough homeowners or nurserymen for increasing desirable plants.

"Green Thumbs" will be an excellent reference book for any garden lover's library, and of value to the amateur and the professional gardener, to the student and to the technical horticulturist.



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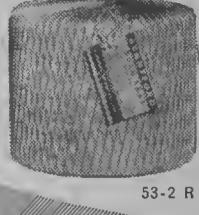
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**MONTHLY**

### Wheat Price Reductions

The decision of the United States Government to increase its subsidies on foreign wheat sales has increased the tempo of wheat discussions in a number of national capitals, including Ottawa.

The announcement that the U.S. would increase its subsidies on I.W.A. wheat sales by approximately ten cents a bushel was made on June 5. Presumably this intention was made known to Canada prior to the announcement since talks between government officials of the two countries had taken place in Washington a short time previously.

As was inevitable, the Canadian Wheat Board dropped its selling price at both Port Arthur and Vancouver by 10% cents a bushel, basis No. 1 Northern. This policy was applied to I.W.A., Class II and domestic wheat sales. In the first instance, the American announcement applied only to sales under I.W.A., but the inevitable result was its extension to include offerings of government-owned wheat stocks to countries outside the international wheat pact.

While a strong U.S. desire to dispose of its surpluses has been evident for some time, the recent increase in the subsidy rates (which has the same effect as a price reduction) was prompted to some extent by the success of the Argentine. The United States has been obviously impressed by the volume of wheat sales which that country has been transacting at prices lower than those asked for North American wheat. In addition, the United States was motivated by a strong feeling that it might be possible to enlarge the volume of wheat moving in international trade by a lower price level.

Judging from statements made by Canadian Government spokesmen the thinking at Ottawa has been somewhat different. The view has been expressed officially that Canada, percentage-wise, is getting a reasonable share of international wheat transactions and that the volume of this trade would not be materially greater as a result of lower prices.

However, it is obvious that Ottawa considers it necessary that Canadian wheat prices remain competitive with other suppliers. With new crops coming off in the Argentine and Australia in considerable volume the problem is one attracting immediate attention. The Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, in dealing with the current situation before the House of Commons recently, summed the matter up as follows:

"Those private buyers buy their wheat as cheaply as they can, on the basis of quality. It was found by the United States and by ourselves that our prices were becoming out of line with those being quoted, particularly by southern hemisphere countries which have just harvested their crops, and are active competitors in the world market."

"It became a question as to whether we would hold an umbrella over those countries and be content to stand by until they sold their crops. It is the feeling of both North American countries that neither of us can afford to do that in the present situation. The

matter was discussed. The facts were agreed upon as to competition in world markets. Each country retired to make its own decision as to what it would do in regard to that competition. The United States moved first and decided that their situation warranted a cut of more or less ten cents. It was not an even cut of ten cents because the various delivery points were cut to varying degrees. Our board, in the light of the discussions in Washington and in the light of the action taken by the United States, decided that a cut in the top grades of 10% cents a bushel was warranted at the time to make Canada competitive."

Insofar as Canada is concerned the price reduction aims at meeting trade competition. The Canadian Trade Minister has indicated that further price cuts will be made if they are necessary to maintain the Canadian position in the United Kingdom and world markets. However, as he stated to the Commons, an abrupt cut in the price had been favored because it was more likely to induce buyer confidence that such a price should prevail than would a gradual price reduction policy. This would seem to indicate that further price reductions are not at all favored if it is possible to avoid them.

In assessing the current situation it must be kept clearly in mind that a number of wheat importing countries, including Canada's principal customer the United Kingdom, have placed their wheat trade in private hands. Therefore, importers are free to buy their requirements on the most favorable terms obtainable. It is undoubtedly true that the U.K. importers, supported by substantial domestic stocks, have been withholding purchases with the hopes of a price reduction. If, as some reports indicate, these reserve stocks are now nearing depletion, an increase in purchases may be expected in the near future. With these thoughts in view Canada would wish to establish and maintain a price near present levels.

### International Wheat Council in Session

The week long session of the International Wheat Council ended in London a few hours previous to time of writing. Early reports indicate the attendance of 43 importing and four exporting members of the Council. Prior to the meeting reports were widely circulated that the United States intended to offer wheat at the I.W.A. minimum, action which would undoubtedly precipitate a price crisis. Reports from London indicate that nothing of the kind has developed but that the U.S. is playing a very modest part in the discussions. Insofar as Canada is concerned the Canadian Trade Minister had told parliament that this country has no intention of offering supplies of wheat at the I.W.A. floor price in order to require signatory nations to take delivery of their guaranteed allotments. Actually, of course, there is no necessity for the question of price to come before routine meetings of the Wheat Council which normally deals with questions of administrative procedure.

It is reported that the Belgium delegate advanced a suggestion for a new international wheat conference looking

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# COMMENTARY

to an agreement more comprehensive in scope than the present one. The present agreement expires on July 31, 1956, prior to which time discussions as to its possible renewal will of necessity take place. Such discussions might be expected to occur during the early months of 1956. Apparently the Belgium suggestion is based on the idea that if a wider wheat agreement can be negotiated it might be substituted for the current agreement in the year 1955-56.

While the present International Wheat Council does not include the Argentine or the United Kingdom, the Belgium suggestion might attempt, through the efforts of some body other than the International Wheat Council, to obtain the membership of these countries. While the Council has named a four-nation committee to look into the proposal it is probable that this would involve prior diplomatic discussions between the United States, the United Kingdom and Argentina. In all probability it will receive support from a considerable number of the importing members of the I.W.A. Some anxiety on the part of these countries is indicated because of the possible damage to the I.W.A. of a severe price cut and because rock bottom prices for wheat could severely damage their own agricultural economies, many of which are heavily subsidized.

The Wheat Council wound up its meeting with the warning that unless an orderly adjustment can be affected in the current wheat situation, international wheat trade may seriously deteriorate. The Council urged that all wheat importing and exporting countries co-operate in order to prevent the development of a serious wheat crisis.

The delegates re-endorsed the principles of the International Wheat Agreement as a method of international co-operation but they recognized the fact that the agreement would be more effective with the co-operation of some of the important importing and exporting countries not at present members of the agreement.

Taking all factors into consideration the future of I.W.A. appears somewhat obscure at the present time. The attitude and policy of the United States will have an important bearing upon future developments. Following the publication of the Randall Report the idea that the United States was losing interest in the International Wheat Agreement became widespread in that country. If such is the case,

official and public opinion in the U.S. might not be favorable to the renewal of the agreement. Quite certainly if the agreement is to continue there must be a revival of interest in the United Kingdom and a renewal of interest in the United States. V

## Sharp Acreage Reduction for U.S. Producers

Sweeping government controls over certain types of farm production were ordered Monday, June 21, 1954, by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra T. Benson. The new controls, presumably resulting from current surpluses of agricultural products, are said to be the greatest in U.S. farm history.

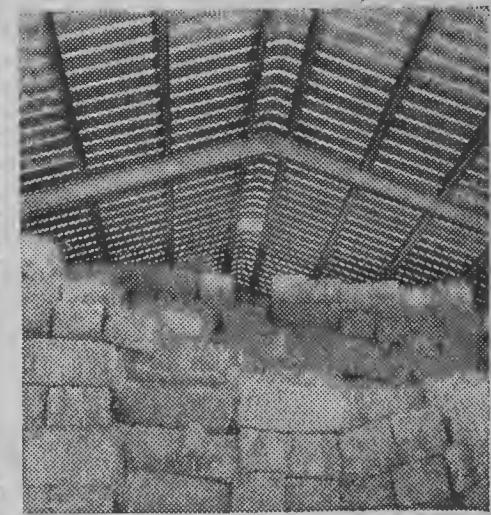
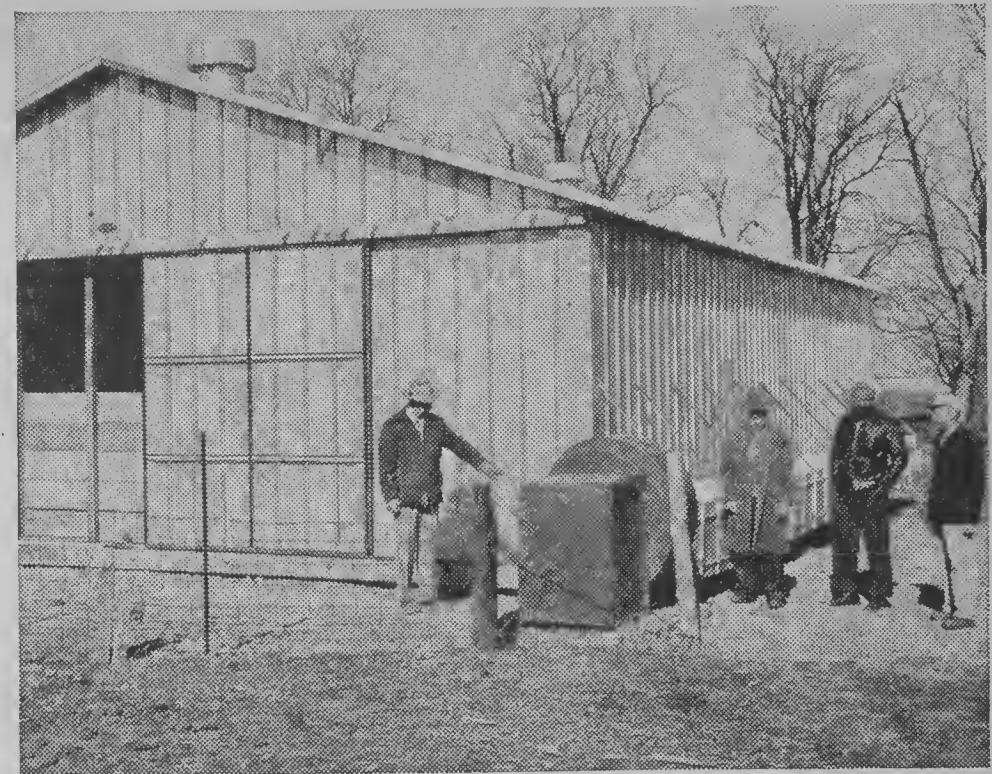
Highlights of the new controls include a cut-back in wheat acreage from 62 million to 55 million acres. This follows a reduction from 78 million to 62 million bushels applicable during the current year.

A system of "cross compliance" will apply to all farms. This means that the farmer must comply with acreage allotments on all of the basic crops before he will be eligible for government price support on any crop.

In addition to the foregoing a *total* acreage allotment will be applied to some 900 thousand of the nation's bigger farms. The object of this order is to prevent the diversion of wheat land to the production of other basic crops.

These controls will apply to next year's production. The chief departure of the new policy is the over-all allotment for the big farms whose operators will be required to divert a portion of their acreage from basic crops. Emphasis will be placed on soil building plants such as hay and cover crops as part of the over-all conservation program. Under existing regulations land diverted from the basic crops may be used in the production of barley, oats and soybeans. Since these crops are also subject to price supports, the current year's reduction of wheat acreage could result in heavy production of coarse grains. The new over-all allotment policy will prevent this diversion for a considerable percentage of the ten million acres to be taken out of the basic crops next year.

The firm stand taken by the administration underscores the government's strong bid to solve the current farm surplus problem. The United States is obviously determined to dispose of existing surpluses; it would appear to be equally determined to avoid future accumulation of agricultural products if at all possible. V



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## The Mysterious Refrigerator

*Who wouldn't like a large walk-in refrigerator at the back door, with no cost for power, and of ample capacity*

by DON MEADE

HOW would you like to own a farm that has a built-in refrigerator at the back door? One that costs nothing, yet will hold all the perishables that you and your neighbors could possibly consume in a year?

On the sagebrush benches along the Fraser River, at Lillooet, British Columbia, a farmer enjoys the use of such a plant.

Twenty years ago, when Martin Chernault, a former Montana cow-puncher, settled on the farm, he didn't dream of refrigeration. His main worry was to find water. The little spring didn't provide enough to supply both domestic and garden needs. It was during his search for water that he found the biggest and most mysterious refrigeration system that has ever been used by a Canadian farmer.

It is well known that, without irrigation, mountain benches along the Fraser River at Lillooet, parch in summer. In spite of rich loam that produces bumper crops of seed, hops, tomatoes and fruit trees, Mr. Chernault faced the expensive proposition of either pumping water 400 feet from the Fraser River, or bringing it nine miles from Fountain Creek, as did his predecessor, the gold-rush farmer, Johnathan Scott, who once raised tobacco commercially on the benches.

After Mr. Chernault had built a cabin of pine, from timber off the mountain side, he began his tour of inspection that was to end in surprise, and later, in profitable business for himself and his Lillooet neighbors.

At the mountain base behind his cabin, he noticed that the ground was damp. He thought that to tunnel into the slope might uncover a hidden water source and save the expense of digging a well. He got out his pick and shovel. He pounded and scooped into the rocks and soil only to find that the farther he dug, the harder the ground became.

On closer inspection, he discovered that the earth was frozen solid. Intrigued by the phenomenon, he sweated over his work. At last, he stood in a shallow cave, shivering. Outdoors, it was blistering hot. Inside,



[B.C. Gov't Travel Bur. photo  
Inside the capacious natural farm refrigerator at Lillooet, B.C.]

he couldn't stand the cold. He ran to the house for warmer clothes.

That day, he dug a sizable cave. In the morning, excited over his find, he went back to work. Long icicles that clustered from the cave's roof, blocked his way. He had to knock them down, but as soon as they fell, new ones quickly formed.

Facing this hazard, he kept digging, happy that now, at least, the cave would provide refrigeration. Thirty-two feet into the slope, he stopped digging. He brought timbers to crib up the cave. He hung a door on the opening so the warm sun wouldn't penetrate into the natural refrigerator.

A FEW days later, he discovered his mistake. The door bulged with the pressure of ice behind it. He took off the door. He noticed, too, that the hotter the sun, the faster the ice came. One day, after the door had been removed, he went to the cave, now a source of wonder for the whole countryside, and there, preserved in ice was a black bear that had crept in to sleep. They carried out the stiffened beast.

People crowded to see the natural wonder and Chernault got an idea. He had picture postcards made of the cave and sold them for 25 cents each. Not only had the refrigerator cost nothing, now, it provided a small income.

Along with the crowds, came scientists, eager to solve the mystery. Little groups of them became common on the streets of Lillooet and at the Chernault farm, arguing out the phenomenon. They became interested in the wind that on hot days moaned out of the cave, and in winter, whistled in.

Some said that centuries past, a portion of a glacier had been trapped under an old slide. That accounted for the ice. Others said the draft of air that blew out of the cave came right down through the mountain. Still others referred to the ancient ruins of Pompeii for a solution. When the Italian government excavated Pompeii, they found earthenware jars, used by early Romans for cooling water. The jars were supposedly placed in the sun, letting water seep through the pores. The sun evaporated the water, keeping the contents cool. They said that Chernault's refrigerator was none other than a huge, porous jar. Still, the mystery lives unsolved, for no one has explained why ground around the spring doesn't freeze.

THERE are other ice caves in Canada that open into the Selkirk Range near Glacier, British Columbia. Wind also moans through them and a blast of frigid air hits your face when 20 feet from the entrance. In one of these caves, a subterranean river plunges through one icy wall of the cave, and shoots through the air to an opening in the opposite wall. This, too, is a mystery, for no one has ever found the source of the suspended river.

What's news at Inco?

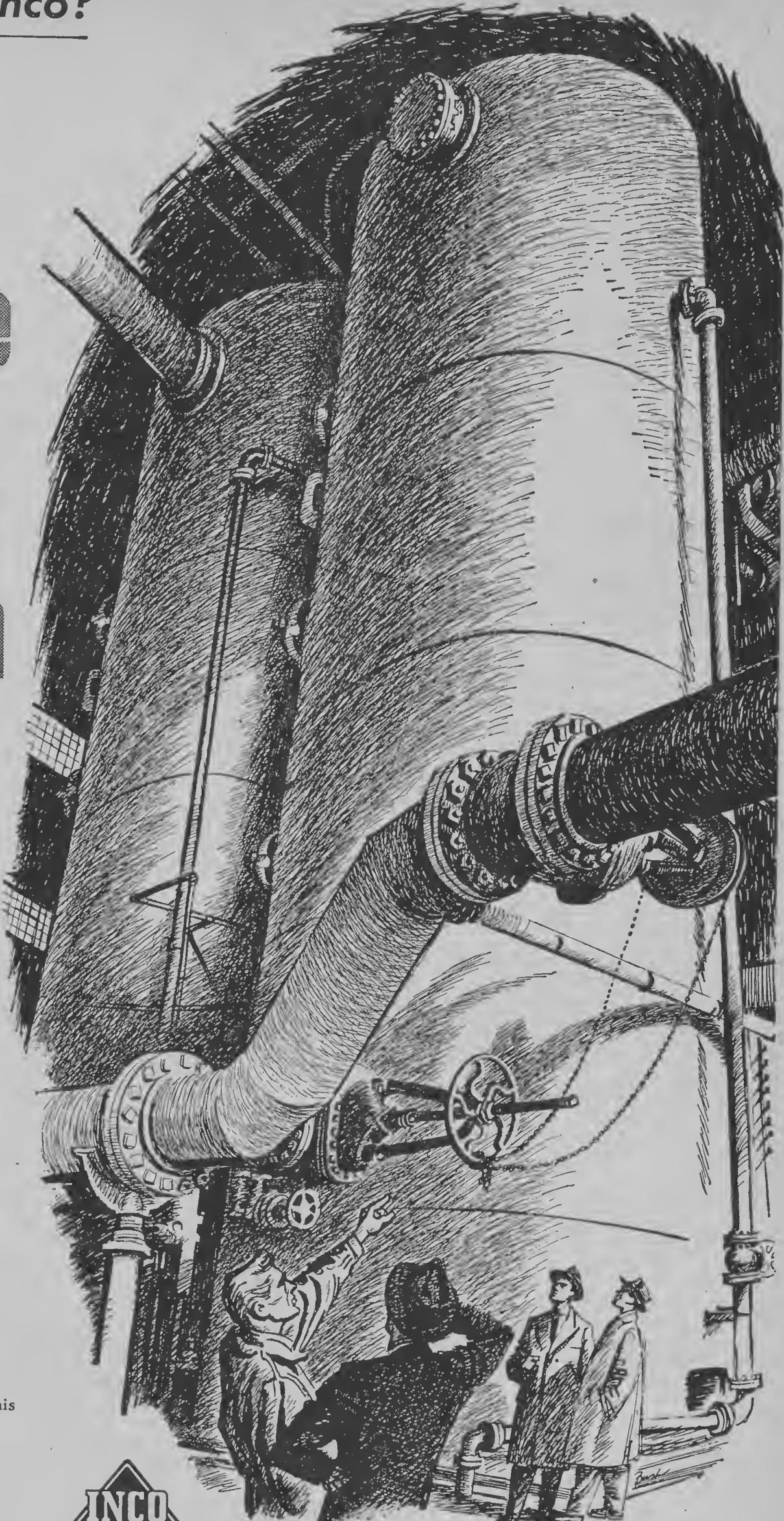
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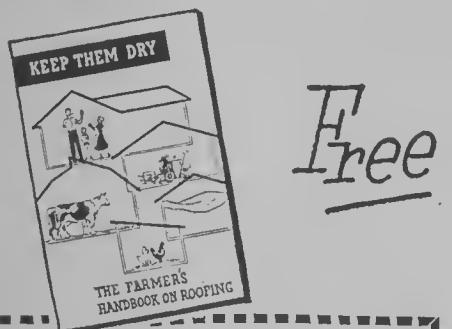


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# DUROID

## The Blight Of Hail

*When the mad galloping of the sky horses shakes loose the hail, this is what could, and did, happen*

by INA BRUNS

I SOMETIMES wonder what people in other professions would do if they were suddenly confronted with the grim prospect of living an entire year without an income. This year, as in every year, thousands of farm families will face just such a prospect. They are the ones who will lose their crops to hail.

There is almost nothing one can do about the disastrous threat of hail. There was a time when insurance was a pretty good answer, but insurance has long ceased to compensate for a farmer's loss, to a meaningful degree. Nor does a farmer have the consolation that he can only be asked to face such a loss once in his lifetime. I have heard of people being hailed out eight years in succession! It is not uncommon for farm families to be forced to "work out" to pay taxes on land that is a constant target to hail.

As youngsters we lived a mile from the banks of the Red Deer River. Every now and then we would see a hail cloud seething out of the sky in a bee-line for our crops. As the cloud reached the river, it would suddenly follow along the water course, and we would see the white sheets of hail raining their lethal load on the crops across the way. I remember how the rainbow would come out after such a storm, and plant its shimmering omen of good luck above the ruined crops. Those were the depression years, when we were getting bumper crops every year. We were raising so much grain that we were broke paying threshing bills. How the people across the river managed without crops I shall never know, but I have a pretty good idea of how they must have felt. We were hailed 100 per cent in '51!

We live in a district known for its freedom from this menace. Farmers have farmed our district for nearly 50 years without losing a crop to hail, but something went wrong with the weather pattern. British Columbia was suffering from no rain, and we were saturated with it. In spite of all the cool, wet weather we had on our side of the mountains, every cloud seemed to be loaded with ice. Hail reports began to come in from all sides. We heard of calves being killed, and of a new house being ruined when hail dashed in upon the hardwood floors, to shatter plaster on opposite walls when it bounced. We saw stands of timber killed and spruce trees standing with their north limbs eaten away by the bullets of ice. We were getting a little nervous, when a hail cloud dumped its charge in a neighbor's fields, leaving a 75-bushel crop a chewed-up plot of straw.

But hail has a way of lifting and dropping again, and the rest of our neighborhood had escaped serious damage. We looked at our bumper barley crop that waved shoulder high in the breeze, and wondered how we would feel if it suddenly disappeared. This was to be the biggest crop we had harvested in our years at farming. Our land was new, cleared and broken

at great expense—and this grain that looked so promising was registered seed. Even when people were being hailed on all sides, we never really thought we would lose this crop.

WE were in the latter part of July, the worst time to be hailed. The weather was still wet and cool and we were trying to put up a heavy crop of hay in spite of the frequent rainstorms. I remember so well the day the hail came, for I had taken advantage of the improved weather to paint the picket fence that runs around the lawn. It wasn't a hot day, yet the atmosphere seemed heavy and damp. I was relieved when my husband came in, saying that he didn't expect rain that night. "Looks like we may get a bit of haying done tomorrow. There don't seem to be any clouds in the sky," he reported.

Even then, the cloud that was to bring such history-making damage to our district, must have been lurking behind the timberline. By the time we were ready to go to bed, we began to hear the low, throaty growl of thunder. Wind stirred our trees. It was too dark now to see the white streaks that must have been boiling and churning in the sky. It was not a night for a hailstorm, though. We were not alerted until we suddenly heard that ominous roar that is the prelude to disaster.

Out of the night it rose to such a crescendo that we were shouting to be heard. I snatched the boys from their beds, lest the windows shatter in their sleeping faces. My husband stood beside the two west windows, pillows pressed to the panes in readiness for the onslaught. We still laugh about the pillows. In the first crash of hail, those windows were as free from glass as though they had never held any. The pillows fell out into the storm and the blinds and curtains were slashed by flying glass. We were dragging furniture out of the sheets of rain and ice that filled the room.

This storm did not come with growing intensity—not with a beginning that slowly worked up to a climax. It leaped into its climax with a barrage of hail that crashed down like a dead weight, pounding everything into the ground with one mighty thrust. In the flashes of lightning we could see trees being torn limb from limb. One second we could not see out our bedroom window for the heavy foliage of the May Day tree that shuts out the hot rays of summer sun. Now we could see only stubs of branches sticking up into the flashes of lightning. The night was filled with the most ear-splitting noise I have ever heard, as tons and tons of ice roared down upon the roof. It was as though a thousand horses were thundering over our heads. Now, I was fearful, lest the whole building collapse under the bombardment: I, who had been through so many twisters in Illinois, without fear, suddenly wondered if the world was going to end under a blanket of ice.

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And, outside, the storm went on and on, but we know all had been lost in that first few seconds of the storm. The garden had disappeared into a lake of ice and mud. The trees stood against the flashing sky, bare and leafless. Steam arose from the land, giving it an unearthly atmosphere. We tried to get out the north door, only to find it blocked by a foot of ice—some of the stones the size of golf balls.

We made our way through the ice and water and leaves to where the barley had stood only a few short minutes before. There was nothing in the field but ice and water. It was the same in our north quarter and the same in our south. We had lost around \$10,000 in ten minutes. Our neighbors had lost as much, and many a lot more.

WE drove down to see how our neighbors had fared. Their kitchen roof had given way, and rain poured in over the stove and the kitchen furniture. They had simply gone out, closing the door, and were sitting in the living room listening quietly to one of the girls playing the piano. They had just lost their bumper crops on five quarters of land and they were just starting up!

The next morning we went to town, to stand in line for window glass. The storm had covered a wide swath and everyone seemed to be hit in some way. The Canadian Union College on the outskirts of Lacombe had lost thousands of panes of glass. One man told of trying to reach his chicken house to close the door, but wisely refrained from going into the barrage of ice. The 250 chickens had become so frightened by the noise that they fled into the night—to be cut down to the last chicken.

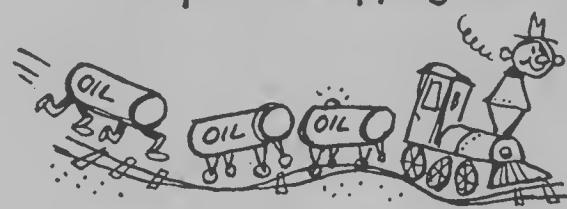
Last summer was another bad year for hail. I shall never forget one dreadful night when four storms moved about the countryside cutting a complete circle about our area. Once again that ominous roar filled the night. I had planted some giant delphiniums just outside the kitchen windows; and I watched those eight-foot spikes of blue flowers waving bravely, as lightning rent the sky and hailstones began to splatter down. I thought of Frances Scott Key watching through the night to see if his immortal Star-Spangled Banner would still be there with the flash of the next cannon. I, too, was watching to see if those delphiniums would stand. If they did, the crop would be saved. If they went down, I knew what that meant. The flowers were still there in the morning, straight and beautiful, with only a few holes through their leaves. We had come through with something like a ten per cent loss. But what is that when compared with a total loss! Our hearts went out to those whose delphiniums had not stood through the night.

This year we put the seed into the ground just as the gambler puts his chips on the wheel of fortune. We have hopes that this is not going to be a hail year and if we escape drought, frost, insects and wind, we may have a fighting chance to meet the high cost of farming. If, however, one of those white-streaked clouds comes roaring out of the west, there will be nothing to look forward to but "next year."



## That'll be a million dollars please

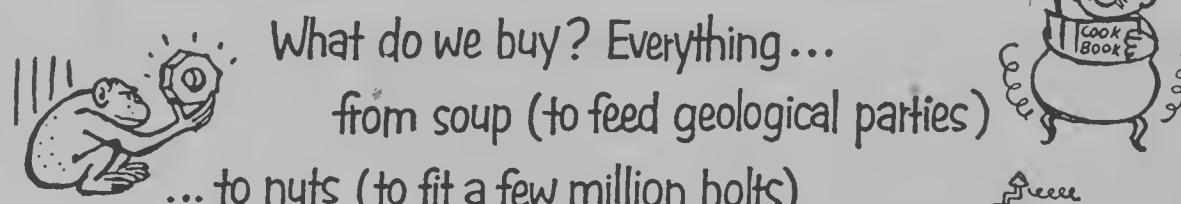
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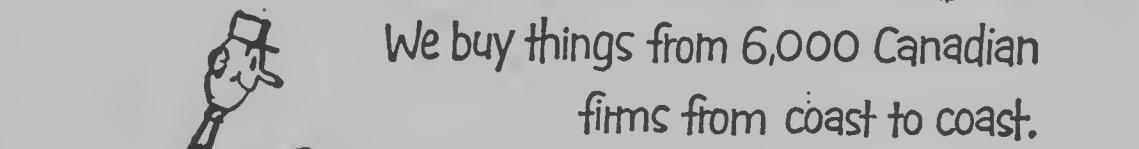
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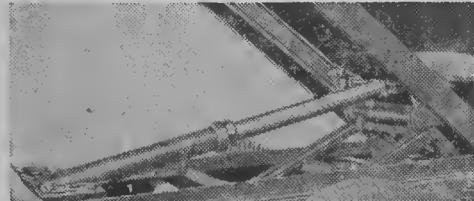
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**Your Brand Is Your Protection**

Continued from page 10

yearlings and older cattle the character should not be less than five inches high. Irons should be made of mild steel, and a recommended weight or size that will hold heat is 7/16" by 3/4" or 7/8". The face should be worked to a width of 1/4" to 5/16" and slightly rounded. The corners, or ends, should also be slightly rounded. Where the letter or figure requires a right angle, or less, a notch should be ground in the face of the iron at the angle, about 1/4" wide and 1/4" deep. This prevents getting too much heat where two or more parts may come together, and thereby avoids blotching in the corners. Horse brand-irons may be made from lighter material. It is important that all irons be smooth on the face, but this is particularly true of horse irons.

Irons will scale if heated in too hot, or too fast a fire. Banked hot coals make the best fire! Heat until the iron is bluish white. Apply carefully, without holding close to the animal any longer than necessary before actual application. Hold the iron steadily and firmly with a rotary rocking motion, but do not ride on it. The skin should be burned pink, but no more. When the hair is long, it may be an advantage to clip the spot of application. This is not necessary, however, if you apply the iron until the hair is burnt, lift the iron, brush the animal and the face of the iron with the gloved hand, or on the ground, and re-apply the iron in the exact location. If hair and scale from the iron tend to accumulate, the iron should be brushed off to clean it rather than be banged against a post.

If animals are wet from rain or sweat, steam is formed, which results in unnecessary discomfort and blotched burns.

It is highly important that animals be properly restrained. The most common and most satisfactory method is by stretching them on the ground, or by use of a squeeze.

THE use of acid or liquid brands has become fairly general in recent years, because their application does not require the heating of irons. It is also generally considered to be a more humane way of branding. Animals

may be more easily restrained, than when branded with a hot iron. The manufacturers of these products claim that satisfactory brands can be obtained if applied properly. This is true, but it is rare indeed to find anyone who applies them properly. Proper application requires specially constructed irons, clipping the area where the brand is applied, using the exact amount of liquid so it cannot run and still have enough to burn a scar. It also means keeping the animal from coming in contact with other animals, or rubbing against posts, rails or other obstructions, for a considerable time after application. Where a hot iron brand is painful for a matter of seconds, the liquid brand will bother an animal for days, as the chemical process of burning a scar is taking place.

The practice of applying what is sometimes referred to as a temporary brand, or hair brand, by a light application of hot iron or acid, to a long-haired animal, is bad practice in any stock inspection area. This type of branding, along with the use of acid brands, give brand inspectors most of their troubles associated with deciphering illegible brands.

It is in the fall and early winter when a good brand really means something. Cattle are coming off the ranges and the farms, out of community pastures and forest reserves, and strays are showing up all over the place. They are moving to stockyards, community auctions, packing plants, feed-lots, cover crop, and other outlets. Strange cattle are in strange places, and the tendency to stray is much greater than at any other time of the year. Brand inspection services are flooded at this time, and thousands of cattle are being "cut" by the brands they carry. This is the time of year when brand reading is most difficult, because of long coats of hair, as well as frost and snow. Well-branded cattle can usually be cleared without difficulty. Much time is wasted by brand inspectors, cowboys, ranchers and farmers in catching, clipping and guessing at illegible brands.

Thousands of dollars are returned each year, in Alberta, to the owners of branded stray cattle. Make sure that you are not a loser because your brands cannot be deciphered.

(Note: W. H. T. Mead is Livestock Commissioner, Alberta Department of Agriculture, Edmonton.—ed.)

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## Dead Bulls Now Sire Offspring

Continued from page 11

breeds — Holstein, Ayrshire, Jersey, Guernsey, Angus, Shorthorn, Dual-Purpose Shorthorn and Hereford.

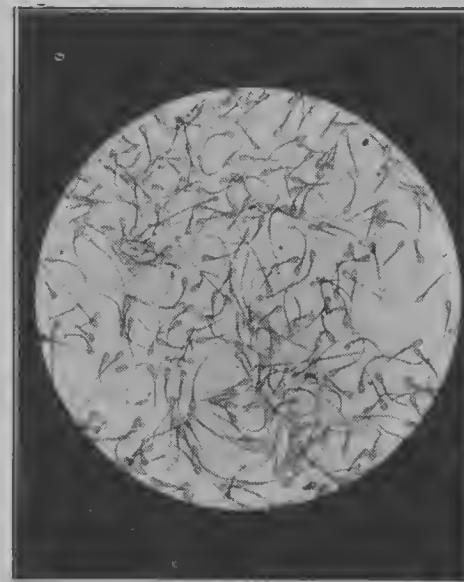
At the headquarters in Woodstock, the Association has a holding cabinet with a capacity of 7,000 vials of frozen semen. Smaller holding cabinets are kept at the four regional offices in Stratford, London, St. Thomas and Chatham. Members may specify what semen they prefer, use liquid if available, or frozen semen from storage. Equally, members or private owners may call upon the resources of other associations.

The semen is collected in the usual manner, by a technician employed by the Breeding Association. It is diluted 1:40 in the customary way, carefully sealed and labelled even more carefully, and goes to the Ontario Veterinary College for freezing. This must be done under controlled conditions, and to date, O.V.C. has done all this part of the work.

"That is extremely important," points out R. H. Graham, assistant director of the Livestock Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture. "For the protection of the cattle industry, the semen must be handled under strict control—just as carefully as blood plasma for humans. It calls

for absolute accuracy of labelling, and reliability of the operators. Otherwise, it opens the door to unscrupulous individuals, and there's no knowing what disaster could result from that."

AT O.V.C., the diluted semen is frozen in sealed vials, or ampules, containing one milligram, which is a



Here are the male cells as they appear under the microscope.

single dose. These are frozen slowly, over a controlled period of time, to a temperature of  $-79^{\circ}$  C. ( $-108^{\circ}$  F.). The semen is stored at this temperature for varying periods.

The British have reported satisfactory results from semen 15 months of

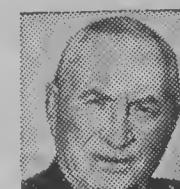
age, kept at low-temperature storage. Probably the oldest semen in North America is that collected at O.V.C. in November, 1952, and which was used in May, 1954, to inseminate 45 cows. At the time of our visit, it was too early to ascertain the results, but the semen under the microscope showed good mobility when thawed.

Researchers in different countries keep in touch with one another's work, and some experiments are done in co-operation. A shipment of frozen semen was flown to England in 17 hours, not long ago, on an experimental basis. Inquiries have come to the Ontario Veterinary College from dairy breeders in all the western provinces, and from Quebec. Just recently, a semen storage "bank" was opened in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

Artificial insemination has become standard practice with many breeding associations, though it is not recommended for ranch herds. In Ontario last year, 250,000 cows were bred artificially. The greatest percentage were Holsteins, with Herefords in second place. Since the Hereford Association does not register artificially-bred calves, owners of grade cows, rather than the purebred breeder, received the benefit of some of the best bulls available.

The Holstein-Friesian Association has published its rules and regulations governing the use of frozen semen, and other cattle associations are fol-

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## "RURAL YOUTH plans its future"



Rural community leaders may wish to use this "Letter" to broaden interest in the work of their own young people's groups. The Royal Bank will be glad to supply bulk quantities for such purposes on request. Write to Monthly Letter Dept., 360 St. James St. W., Montreal.

What Canada's rural young people are doing to build a happy and useful future is told in the Royal Bank's Monthly Letter for July.

Nearly 100,000 of these young Canadians are studying, planning, building the year round. Through clubs and groups, they develop "health, heart, head and hands." The Letter, entitled "Rural youth plans its future," tells their inspiring story.

# THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

lowing suit. The Canadian Shorthorn Association, at its last annual meeting, ruled that calves resulting from an artificial insemination, where there had been another service from a different bull within 30 days, would not be registered. The ruling will increase the sale of bulls, or the use of frozen semen.

Artificial insemination has already affected the sale of dairy bulls and of some beef breeds. It is understandable that some breeders with bulls to sell, might feel some hostility toward a process which destroys the market value of some bulls still further, while sub-

stantially increasing the value of others.

**I**N 1953, in its experimental work, Ontario Veterinary College ampuled and froze 34,000 units. Laboratory technicians work in a chilly room, with the three-section refrigerating unit off to one side. The "bank" has space for 22,000 vials, but larger units are planned for early construction.

The field technician fills out application forms, and the laboratory technician hands out the desired vials, each labelled with the code number specifying the breed, bull, and collection date. Both use steel tongs in handling

the frozen capsules, which are transferred quickly from the storage unit to a thermos jug and packed in dry ice. The thermos goes into the low-temperature carrying case, and the technician sets off on his day's work. The frozen semen is thawed in cool water at the farmer's barn.

The Waterloo County Breeders' Association, pioneering in this technique, charges a straight \$5 for fresh or frozen semen, and an extra dollar to non-members. Members of other associations are regarded as "insiders."

The Oxford Breeders' Association charges higher rates. Regardless of bull



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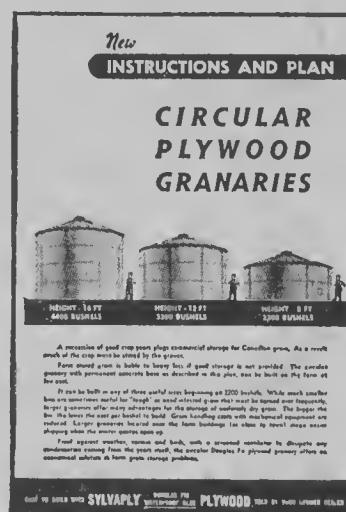
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or breed used, the fee is \$7 for members, and \$9 for non-members.

"Those rates are just tentative, however," says Dr. McDonald. "Most of our members who wish to make specific matings, and use a certain bull on all their females, expect to pay more for this privilege. Frozen semen is at present more costly than liquid, because of the new equipment and materials, such as dry ice."

Fifty services a year from a bull was once considered not only satisfactory, but good. Artificial insemination changed that. A sire of high fertility may number his sons and daughters into the thousands, even though liquid semen is limited to four-day storage at most. Breeders dislike more than one day's delay.

**A**RTIFICIAL insemination increases the potentialities for good, or evil. Long-term storage now opens up almost unlimited possibilities, so that careful selection of sires is even more important than before.

It was believed, and widely stated, that several transmissible diseases were eliminated by the deep-freeze treatment, and eventually could be bred out. But Dr. Henderson, an authority on the subject, shakes his head. "Some research workers make that statement, but it's claiming too much. It may come some day, but it isn't here yet. Any kind of artificial insemination emphasizes the danger of carrying over a bad factor. Breeders were careful of sires previously, but they have to be proportionately more cautious with the potentialities of stored semen."

With improved production techniques, enlarged laboratory space, more assistants and more refrigerating units, production of frozen semen at O.V.C. will be speeded up considerably. While most of the field work has been amongst breeders in southwestern Ontario to date, the possibilities of transferring semen to remote parts of the province or of the country can be readily envisaged. Air shipments of liquid semen to northern and northwestern Ontario already have proved a great boon, especially where herds are very small. Unquestionably, the discovery of, and research into long-term storage of semen, will have a cumulative effect in developing superior types of both beef and dairy cattle in Canada in the future. V

## Key to Rosemary

Continued from page 8

cause when people who aren't used to it either try to talk that way, we know they're only doing it to make an impression. Perhaps," she said impishly, "to her we sound if not la-di-da, at least queer."

"Hm!" said Jean, biting off her thread.

Anne found herself Rosemary's champion often, even to Ellen, who looked in vain for evidence that her daughter-in-law was settling in to life in Elmwood.

"I don't understand her," she said despairingly to Anne. "Even in the house it's as if it were an effort to bother with any of us."

She seemed to prefer looking through a box of Bob's old schoolbooks or going over some of his things—his model planes and boats and trains, his baseball outfit, and even his stamp collection. Will Forbes thought Ellen was making too much of it. He had asked her down to the store to show it off, and she'd seemed interested and asked a few questions but, as Ellen said, he wasn't around all day.

"She looks around a lot and says practically nothing, as if she were making unfavorable comparisons," Ellen told Anne. "You watch. Come in for a cup of tea this afternoon."

Rosemary helped Ellen get the tea ready willingly enough, buttering scones and fetching a pot of red currant jelly from the pantry. But when they sat down at the big, old-fashioned table in the kitchen Rosemary seemed more interested in staring out the window on the garden side of the room. She replied when spoken to directly, but with the air of one who has been called back from a great distance.

"See what I mean?" Ellen said afterward. "When people ask me how Bob's wife likes it here I honestly don't know what to say."

"Have you asked her?"

"Oh—I couldn't."

A faint red spot showed on Ellen's cheek. It was not only fear of what the answer might be, Anne realized, but a touch of antagonism as well.

She said impulsively, "If Rosemary hadn't the slightest connection with Bob, if she were just a girl you happened to know, would you like her?"

Ellen stiffened, then said, "There are some nice things about her, I must admit. She's not vain about her looks, and she has reason to be. She doesn't run around spending money on a clutter of useless knick-knacks the way some girls do, and she always does what I ask. But if she'd only say straight out what she's thinking, I'd know where I was. Sometimes I can hardly keep myself from telling her so."

"Don't you think it's shyness?" Anne said. "It takes some people a little longer to adjust themselves to perfectly strange surroundings. Just wait until Bob gets here."

"That'll settle it, one way or the other," Ellen agreed, adding after a moment, "Sometimes I almost dread his coming."

As he had said, he was to arrive on her birthday, and when Anne went over to Forbes' to help, the morning before the great event, Ellen was all

anticipation. Rosemary's eyes were shining. She was peeling apples for a pie and she flashed a radiant smile at Anne. There was something in the atmosphere of a house simmering with anticipation, Anne thought, that was like a gift from the golden age; every appetizing smell of baking, every clean corner of every room and the sight of the drowsy August sun through the windows, made a kind of symphony of happiness.

Ellen was full of reminiscences.

"Ever since he was old enough to notice such things," she said, "Bob'd do something special for my birthday.

Once he got up before dawn and tramped miles to get a pail of mushrooms. Another time it was a batch of brook trout for my breakfast—"

Rosemary hung on every word, her deep blue eyes studying her mother-in-law's face as if she were seeing a different person. In the midst of it the boy from the telegraph office wobbled around the drive on his bicycle and came up the verandah steps.

"For you, Mrs. Forbes," he said, handing in an envelope.

Ellen almost snatched it from him. Rosemary, her face suddenly drained and apprehensive, let her knife fall.

Ellen's eyes gulped the message in one swift glance.

"He's not coming," she said tragically. She recited the clipped phrases: "Delayed again red tape happy birthday love to both my girls."

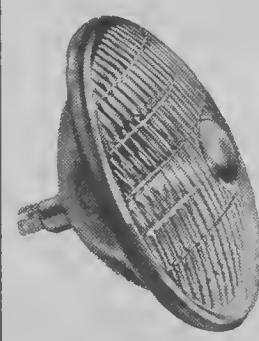
Rosemary's pale face glowed for a moment at the last words, then the faraway look came back to her eyes, and she listlessly picked up her knife. Ellen stood holding the envelope for a minute, then set it down and went back to her pastry, rolling it now with heavy, mechanical strokes.

Anne could only offer sympathy, and hoped with the passing of the next

## Wherever you go...



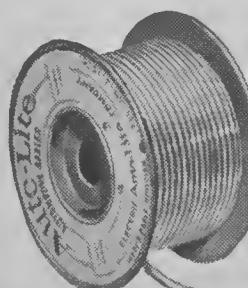
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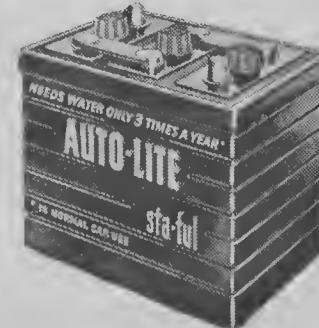
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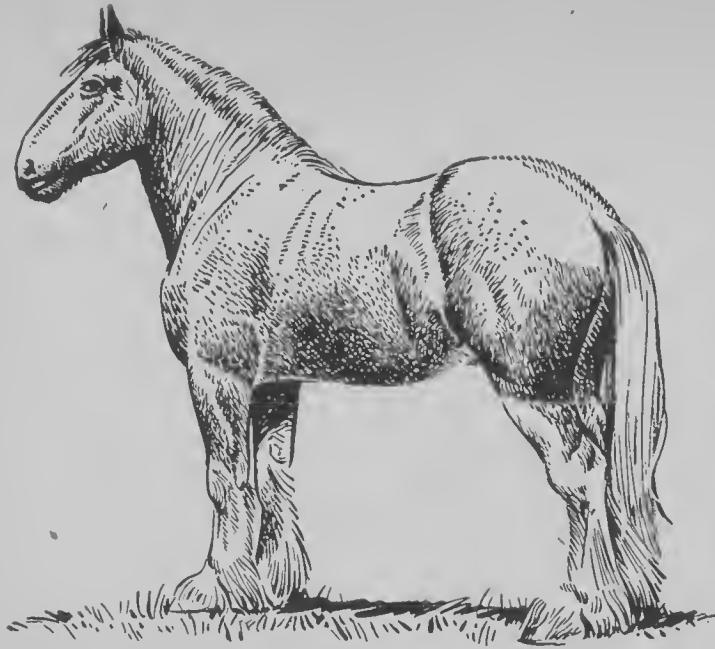
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twenty-four hours the birthday could be endurably faced. She ran over after breakfast, then, with a little gift for Ellen and found that the day had got away to a bad start. As Ellen talked, Anne saw the whole scene vividly. There were the three of them at breakfast, Will, Ellen and Rosemary: Rosemary's gift of a turquoise blue pottery bowl for Ellen's favorite Calendulas was set modestly beside the mixer that was Will's gift: he was trying to cheer the two of them up.

"Sure, it's tough," he said, "but it would have been a lot tougher if he were never coming back. We've stuck it out this far. A week or so extra won't kill us."

"I've counted every day, every hour, every minute," Ellen said.

Then Rosemary spoke, her lips trembling. "Me, too," she said.

The bitterness of disappointment flared in Ellen. She turned on Rosemary. "What do you know about it?" she said. "I had him from the beginning. I heard him say his first word and saw him take his first step and go out to his first day at school. You've only had him for a few months."

Anne was aghast. Poor little Rosemary.

"I don't know what possessed me," Ellen said. "She just sat there looking at me, and saying nothing even after Will went and we cleared up the dishes."

"Where is she now?"

"Out somewhere. She made her bed and did her usual little jobs, then went."

"I think I hear her now," Anne said, but the steps that clumped up on the verandah were not Rosemary's.

A voice called through the screen door, "Mrs. Forbes in?"

Ellen turned. "Who is it?"

"Me." It was the same messenger boy who had come yesterday. "Another one for you," he said. He handed it in and went whistling back to his bicycle.

The envelope shook in Ellen's hand.

"I can't open it. Something terrible's happened. You'll have to tell me," she said.

Scared, Anne took the envelope, slit it with a kitchen knife and read the nine words on the paper. Seeing the

expression on her face Ellen snatched the telegram to read for herself, then sank limply to a chair.

"I can't believe it," she said. She smoothed the crumpled paper and recited the message aloud. "Home on birthday after all Malton airport two p.m."

"Perfect!" Anne said.

Ellen was all briskness. "I'll phone Will. We'll have to leave not later than noon. That doesn't give much time to do all the things I dropped when I thought he wasn't coming. There's lunch, too."

"I'll look after things," Anne offered.

"That's good of you. Rosemary—we'll have to let her know."

"I'll hunt her up," Anne said happily.

**S**HE tried Rosemary's usual haunts. She drove to the small, unused schoolhouse on the edge of town where Bob's generation were educated before the new consolidated was built. The grass in the yard grew rankly, but here and there sweet williams made a patch of color to show where once there were flowerbeds. No sign of Rosemary's bright hair and lonely figure there, or in the gully behind where a brook rippled its way down from the ridge. No sign of her in the meadows along the river, either, or out beyond the bridge where the road skirted a woodlot. Anne drove slowly back into town and along Main Street, her glow ebbing. She could easily have missed her, of course.

She parked the car in front of Forbes' house and went in ready to call, "Rosemary get back?" Simultaneously Ellen leaned over the stair banister asking, "Did you find her?"

"N—no."

"She won't have time to dress if she doesn't hurry," Ellen said.

Anne busied herself with lunch. It was on the table ready to eat and still no Rosemary. Will, coming in from the store in high spirits, sobered at sight of the empty place.

"Funny," he said. "She always turns up in time for meals."

"I don't know what struck her today of all days," Ellen said sharply.



"Get lost."

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"She won't have time to eat, let alone dress if she doesn't get here soon."

"You were a bit hard on her this morning," Will said. "Maybe she's walking it off."

Color rising in Ellen's cheeks was her only reply, and they sat down, trying to concentrate on food, trying not to look at the clock, but compelled to reckon with it. The least sound jerked their heads toward the door. Finally Will said, "Time to push off."

"We can't face him without Rosemary," Ellen said, her face looking pinched.

"We can't have that boy stepping off that plane and nobody there to meet him," Will said, edgy himself.

They waited until the last possible moment, and finally had to get into the car. Anne, trying to comfort them, called, "She'll be here waiting when you get back."

She watched the car diminish along the leaf-shadowed street, her heart aching for them all. Bob's first thought would be of Rosemary. "Why didn't she come with you?" he would be sure to ask, and whatever explanation they gave, the morning's episode would hang heavily over Ellen. She felt sorriest for Rosemary, who had lived only for the moment when Bob would step down from the Air Force plane and sweep her up in his arms.

The necessity for looking after her own husband's lunch claimed Anne's attention and she left a note for Rosemary. When she went back the note was still in its place on the kitchen table. The silence and emptiness of the house oppressed her with foreboding. Suppose — suppose Rosemary

weren't back when they returned with Bob. But she had to be. Anne went out to the car and once more covering all the usual and likely places without success, widened her scope. She began to explore the side roads and along the gravelly ones that threaded the ridge. Every so often she stopped the car to call, "Rosemary! Hi, Rosemary!" The only sound that came back was a faint echo of her own voice and the roadside chorus of crickets.

IT was almost four-thirty when she once more parked the car and went into Ellen Forbes' kitchen to put the chicken in the oven. If, she decided, Rosemary weren't back in fifteen minutes, she would begin telephoning all over town to see if anyone had had a glimpse of Rosemary since morning. Then—but before she could decide there was a sound of car wheels, a car door slamming, and voices, Will's, Ellen's and a third that must be Bob's. Bob was home, and there was no Rosemary waiting to welcome him. Hastily she went out and down the steps. Will had the back of the car open and was hauling out Bob's bags. At sight of her the light in Bob's face died.

"Not here?" he said.

"N—not yet. She's probably just lost track of time. She'll probably turn up any minute." Anne hadn't the heart to tell of her own fruitless search. She hadn't the courage to look at Ellen whose realization of responsibility for this must be hard enough to bear.

"Why aren't we doing something?" Bob said savagely. "We've lost too much time already."

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### Basic WHOLE WHEAT Dough

#### Scald

3/4 cups milk  
3/4 cup granulated sugar  
4 1/2 teaspoons salt  
1/3 cup shortening

Remove from heat and cool to lukewarm. In the meantime, measure into a large bowl

3/4 cup lukewarm water

1 tablespoon granulated sugar

and stir until sugar is dissolved. Sprinkle with contents of

3 envelopes Fleischmann's Active

Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well. Stir in lukewarm milk mixture.

#### Stir in

6 cups whole wheat flour  
and beat until smooth and elastic; work in  
4 cups more (about) whole wheat flour

Turn out on board sprinkled with whole wheat flour and knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic. Place in a greased bowl and grease top of dough. Cover and set dough in a warm place, free from draught, and let rise until doubled in bulk. Turn out dough on lightly-floured board and knead 10 minutes. Divide into 3 equal portions and finish as follows:



#### 1. WHOLE WHEAT BREAD

Shape one portion of dough into a loaf and fit into a greased loaf pan about 4 1/2 by 8 1/2 inches. Grease top. Cover and let rise until just doubled in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, 35 to 40 minutes, covering loaf with heavy brown paper after first 15 minutes of baking.

#### 2. PAN BUNS

Cut one portion of dough into 16 equal-sized pieces. Shape each piece into a smooth round ball and arrange in a greased 8-inch square cake pan. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until

doubled in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, about 30 minutes, covering buns with heavy brown paper after first 15 minutes of baking.

#### 3. SALAD OR WIENER ROLLS

Cut one portion of dough into 12 equal-sized pieces. Shape each piece into a slim roll 4 to 5 inches long. Place, well apart, on greased cookie sheets. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, about 20 minutes. Split rolls and fill with salad or heated wieners.



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You incur no obligation in sending for this instructive book. It may be the means of saving you years of untold misery. Write today to The Ball Clinic, Dept. 539, Excelsior Springs, Missouri.

Will put a hand on his arm. "Keep calm," he said. "Let's get organized."

"Ned will spread the word," Anne said.

"What's the number?" Bob demanded.

Anne told him. He bounded up the steps and she followed more slowly with his mother and father. Just inside the door he had halted, his glance caught by a gay scarf draped across the back of the rocking chair over by the window. It could belong to no one but Rosemary. The set lines of his face broke for a moment then became rigid again. He went on to the telephone in the hall.

"I'll have a cup of tea for you in a minute," Anne said into the deathly silence.

Ellen sat down in the rocking chair and closed her eyes, leaning her head against the bright scarf. Will, hands in pockets, paced back and forth, then paused by the hall door to call in to Bob, "Tell him to ask Roy Peters to bring his hound."

Anne's hand shook so that she poured the tea into the saucer instead of the cup. Mention of the dog lent a horrid reality to their forebodings. Grim possibilities took shape and filled the room with lurking shadows. Even in the serenity of a place like Elmwood it was possible for terrible things to happen.

THE tension that held them all was suddenly and unbearably shattered by a cry. Anne never knew whether she, too, hadn't cried out almost simultaneously. Ellen sprang to her feet. Will jerked around. All three pairs of eyes stared in the same direction.

Rosemary, her hair tousled, her clothes bedraggled, was running up the verandah steps.

"Bob, oh, Bob!" she cried. "He's back. I saw his bag outside. Oh, Bob, where are you?"

In one hand she carried a small pail in which Anne saw the glistening darkness of blackberries. So that's where she had been. Scrambling after blackberries. There were no blackberries nearer than Totten's woods, five miles back of the ridge. No wonder she had lost track of time.

She was scarcely inside the door before there was a slam and scuffle from the front hall, and Bob dove out to engulf her in arms of steel.

"Rosemary, honey—" he said.

She dropped the pail on the nearest chair, to clutch him tightly around the neck. "Oh, Bob," she said again. "You said you weren't coming."

"If you'd stay home once in a while," he said, trying to cover his emotion with a pretence at teasing, "you'd hear all the latest news."

They seemed completely unaware of anyone else but stood looking hungrily at each other. In another minute, Anne thought, he'll see her underlying hurt and unhappiness, and neither his mother nor his father will count in the balance against it.

Rosemary leaned her head against his shoulder. "I've been living in a dream," she said. This was it, Anne thought. Some of it was bound to show through when she talked. Anne shrank with compassion for Ellen.

"I've been going to every single spot you ever told me about," Rose-

mary continued, "seeing you there. It was right in this kitchen, wasn't it, that you saw in the paper about winning the scholarship?" Anne scarcely dared to glance toward Ellen. That explained the seemingly critical observation. Rosemary went on, "I've been getting your country into my bones so it would be my country, too. You never told me half of it," she reproached him. "The sunshine and space, and the rivers and brooks and lakes everywhere—for everybody—"

THEY should have had these tender moments to themselves, Anne thought, but to make a move now would be as much of an intrusion as to stay. Bob's father and mother were staring at Rosemary as if she were a stranger. None of them had ever heard her say so much before. She was like a casket filled with beautiful things that no one guessed until Bob came home with the missing key. All at once she seemed to become aware of the others.

"Your mother and father," she looked shyly at them, then back to Bob, "have been wonderful to me. They seemed to understand that I had to catch up on all the things you did in all the years I didn't know you, and they let me go my own way about it. Oh—" Her glance went to the pail of berries. She disengaged herself from Bob's arms and picked it up. "Here," she said, handing it to him.

"What's this?"

"For your mother. She said you always used to get something special for her on her birthday. So when she was just sick about you not coming, I thought I'd try to do it for you. That's why I missed you—"

"So help me," Bob said reverently, "you're even more wonderful than I thought." He turned to Ellen. "Your special present, Mom," he said, "from—from—" His breath petered right out.

Ellen rose from her chair and stood like a statue.

"Oh, don't hold it back," Anne implored her soundlessly. "Be reserved all the rest of your life, if you must, but not now."

Almost before her thoughts had formed the last word, Ellen had gone to put her arms around Rosemary as Anne had wanted her to on the first day they had met. She kissed Rosemary, while Will pretended that a cough was bothering him. Ellen flashed a quick glance to Anne above Rosemary's head and said to Bob, "This is the most special you've ever given me."



"You can always talk to him, but he's not one to worry much about erosion."

# The Countrywoman

## Today

Dream not unto the morrow  
For today burns in the skies,  
And of its gold is spun  
The song of meadowlark  
And setting sun.

—CHARLOTTE BOUCHER.

## Leadership Theme

BY several speakers, on various occasions, the delegates to this year's Manitoba Women's Institutes' convention, held during the third week of June at the University of Manitoba, were made aware that often it is not easy to give answers to questions or to formulate policy for future action which will be acceptable to the membership as a whole.

In her presidential report, Mrs. W. J. Johnston of Swan River, told of membership now standing at 4,400 in 176 locals and of the holding of successful district meetings. "More and more the W.I. are being looked to for leadership. Our leaders," she said, "must be well informed if we are to give opinions and to recommend action."

Special reference was made to a two-page questionnaire, prepared by the Provincial Council of Women, which is being circulated among the members of the women's organizations in the province. The stated purpose of the questionnaire is: "To secure the individual opinion of as many citizens of Manitoba as possible on the Liquor Question and to present a summary of these opinions to the Commission of Enquiry, which is now making a study of the question." The chairman of the Commission, John Bracken, has said: "This is a job that in the end, is a community task that has to be done. We propose to do it as thoroughly as we can and our hope is that the findings will be accepted as a sane and reasonable approach to a most controversial and difficult problem."

Mrs. Johnston reminded the delegates that: "It is not a question of being 'for' or 'against,' but facts we want. It is most important for us to gather facts for presentation."

Mrs. J. W. Adams, of Ethelton, Saskatchewan, president of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, was honor guest and special speaker at the Manitoba W.I. meeting. She drew upon her own experience as a member of the Saskatchewan Royal Commission on Agriculture and Rural Life to illustrate the need for an alert and active interest in the questions of the day. She observed that the economic aspects of the Saskatchewan Royal Commission's study were near finalization but the social phases are lagging behind "partly because of women's diffident attitude toward their lot . . . Then too, it is difficult because we lack a proper yardstick to measure the 'intangibles'—the values that make for a happy and satisfying rural life."

Something of the story of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, since its formation in 1919, its structure, its composition and financing, at a charge of seven cents per member—which includes two cents paid to the international A.C.W.W.—was outlined by Mrs. Adams. This was fully explained in the last issue of the Federated W.I. News and is available for detailed study by locals and individual members. The F.W.I.C. membership now numbers more than 93,000 and there is a great need for communication between the various provincial organizations, enabling them to learn of work done, aims set and the changes which come with the years. "We need to speak with a national voice on national affairs," said Mrs. Adams.

As she visits the provincial organizations Mrs. Adams makes a plea for the members to study two pressing questions: (1) the holding of a national convention, (2) the opening of a national office.

## Interest keynotes sounded at the annual meeting of the Manitoba Women's Institutes

by AMY J. ROE

She has urged that after discussion and deliberation, that each provincial body submit a brief to F.W.I.C. by October 15, 1954, summing up opinions, and making definite recommendations. A national office will cost money. The W.I. during any given year raises hundreds of thousands of dollars and spends them on worthwhile projects, some of which might properly be financed by other groups on a broader representative basis.

Interest in the W.I. movement grows as members move out from the local group and come to know more of their district. It increases greatly as members grasp a view of provincial affairs and come to feel that they have an important part to play, a contribution to make. "At the national level," said Mrs. Adams, "we look about for leaders with experience in the work and possessing good judgment. If our W.I. movement is to hold its place and receive proper hearing by government, its leaders must have the backing and support of its members. And our members should not be so busy with 'fritter' things that they haven't time for the essentials."

One full evening session was devoted to reports on the Associated Country Women of the World Conference, held in Toronto, August, 1953, a story now fairly familiar to many Canadians as Canada sent its full quota of delegates and many others were visitors. Miss Francis McKay, showed colored slides taken at that event. The next A.C.W.W. Triennial will be held in December, 1956, in Ceylon.

It is both encouraging and stimulating to learn of the interest of W.I.'s across Canada in peoples and conditions in other lands; in the United Nations' special agencies such as FAO, WHO, UNESCO and UNICEF. It seems most fitting and timely that a province should be reminded to keep its own constituent body, firm and true and placed in right relation in the nation. Each "link" in the chain of friendship now extending across to country women in some 24 countries must be of the right sort of amalgam—informed and active members, capable and intelligent leaders.

## News from Scotland

IN Scotland the W.I. movement has proven its worth. This was the claim of Miss Martha K. Ferguson, who served for many years as general secretary and who retired from office in October, 1953. At present she is visiting in Canada to observe and learn about rural women's work here. She spoke to the Manitoba convention, tracing its growth since the idea was brought to the British Isles by Mrs. Alfred Watt and promoted by the department of agriculture.

New institutes are being formed at the rate of one a month. They are dedicated to the improvement of country life and no effort is made to organize locals in towns having a population of over 4,000. Similarly the townswomen's guilds are not organized in centers having less than 4,000 people. There are now 65,000 members in 1,200 locals of the Women's Rural Institutes in Scotland. Miss Ferguson said that she is booked for a year in advance to address locals upon her return to report on her experience and observations in Canada. Highlights in her talk were:

The program of a local meeting follows a general pattern. There is something for the members to hear, something to do and something to see at each meeting. Usually this means that there is an interesting talk, a demonstration or a competition and always there is a social half hour and tea is served.

During the war years W.I. members served in canteens, did Red Cross and other volunteer service arising out of the war. Some undertook the teaching

of crafts to convalescents, thus helping many injured and disabled men and women to avoid boredom by learning to use their hands. This work was greatly appreciated and was rewarding to those who undertook it.

The Education committee is responsible for interesting members in their organization. A monthly magazine is published. Efforts are being made to hold two and three-day schools at which members are trained in the duties of officers and in suitable programs of work.

Locals enter music and drama competitions. The W.R.I. are encouraged to form choirs, to find conductors and enter community and county festivals. So too drama groups are formed. They must enter competitions under the name of the W.I. local. Plays are chosen in which the cast may be of men and women, but the men may not outnumber the women. At county agricultural shows there is usually a W.R.I. tent where members display handcrafts, preserves and cooking. Sometimes there is an actual baking demonstration.

The Scottish federation have their own by-laws, which they may amend every year at the annual meeting. Delegates' fares are pooled and may average 22s. whereas there might be a spread of £8 to 4d. between the most distant and the closest locals' cost in sending a delegate. The Central Council forms the National Conference, held every three years. Each W.I. sends one delegate and as many visitors as the meeting hall permits.

## Strawberry Time

WHENEVER the first boxes of fresh strawberries appear on the market my thoughts go back to the scenes of my childhood in Manitoba. I think of Byers' field, that enchanted area across the creek where, in July, groups of little girls wandered in search of wild strawberries.

Some of the little girls were fast pickers and they filled their five-pound lard pails in no time at all. Others, affected by the heat and growing weary, developed a great need for refreshments to bolster their waning strength. As a result, these children rarely brought the contents of their containers above the halfway mark.

Those were the days when large families, endowed with a high percentage of daughters, could boast of 80 to 100 quarts of wild berries "put down" in one season.

No girl would dream of going to Byers' field without two or more proven friends, for the simple reason that inside the three-strand barbed-wire fence there roamed an old horse who was always on the lookout for tender blades of grass that found shelter among the bluebells, cowslips, and Indian paintbrush. He really was a broken-down creature, but to our young minds he was a monster to avoid.

Occasionally he had the companionship of a cow, an awesome beast with a pair of long curved horns and a little bell at her throat which gave fair warning of her approach. Because the choicest berries grew in the long grass edging a small poplar grove, this cow trampled our best patches in an effort to scratch her fly bites on the trunks of young saplings. There were other hazards created by her presence, but these were accepted as part of the adventure of being on our own.

A philosophy of the generous is: "What you give to others, you keep." Byers' field was open-handed and few were the villagers who did not benefit from its bounty; while it, in turn, yearly produced more than enough to satisfy many. Besides strawberries, there were saskatoons, chokecherries, mushrooms, and always—from pussy willow time until the first frosts shrivelled the wild asters, there were bouquets for mother.

Certainly, in those far-off days our lives were greatly enriched by the fact that just across the creek there lay a magic country known to us children as "Byeruz field."—BERYL H. SCOTT

# Surveys and Their Uses



DR. HELEN C. ABELL, Economist, with the Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, was born in Medicine Hat, Alberta, but moved with her family to Toronto as an infant. After attending elementary and high school, followed by study at Macdonald Institute, O.A.C., she received her bachelor's degree in home economics from the University of Toronto. After about four years of service with the C.W.A.C. she continued post-graduate studies winning her master's degree and Ph.D. from Cornell University.

Her first working experience came as nutrition specialist with the Women's Institute Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture. Contacts with people in rural areas aroused her interest in sociology—what makes people think and act the way they do—and that interest set the course of her advanced studies. She joined the armed services as a private but when her special training was noted she was promoted and given special assignments overseas in nutrition teaching.

Research has engaged Dr. Abell's time for the past several years. It began with a survey of school lunches in Peel County, Ontario, while she was engaged in her advanced studies. She is now engaged in full-time research for the Canadian Department of Agriculture.

She is a member of the Canadian Home Economics Association international committee on Levels of Living and of the Rural Sociological Committee of the U.S.A. She is vitally interested in people and their ways of living. On a three-month holiday she toured eight European countries, visiting from two to three days in 62 homes in various countries. Contacts were made through the A.C.W.W. and people she had met during war years. This article is published through the courtesy of the Canadian Home Economics Journal, June, 1954.

by HELEN C. ABELL

WHAT is a survey? According to the Oxford Dictionary it is a "general view; casting of eyes or mind over something; inspection of the conditions, etc." When used by a social scientist the term takes on added meaning, it becomes a carefully planned objective seeking of pertinent facts from and about people.

One of the most extensive surveys with which many Canadian home economists are now familiar is the current Canadian Weight-Height Survey.

Recognizing some of the inadequacies of existing charts, optimistically titled, "Normal Weight in Relation to Height and Age," the World Health and the Food and Agricultural Organizations of the United Nations recommended that the data in such charts be validated by the nation concerned.

Acting on this recommendation the Canadian government authorized Dr. L. B. Pett, Chief of the Nutrition Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare, to proceed with a nation-wide survey of the interrelationships between the age, height, weight and sex of Canadians.

In a nation of over 15,000,000 people it was necessary to select a representative sample of Canadians before any data were collected. This vitally important and highly technical work was performed by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics where statisticians selected a representative sample of 20,000 people.

These people were then visited by field workers who carefully recorded each person's name, sex, age, height, weight and upper arm skinfold measurement. The interviewers carried with them accurate weighing scales, measuring rod and calipers, all

of which were used before the data were recorded.

As a result of this survey, Canada will be one of the first countries to have accurate height-weight charts, which undoubtedly will be used extensively by medical men, nurses, nutritionists, teachers and others. It is highly probable that some personal satisfaction may accrue to the many men whose wives used to serve them low-calorie meals because the familiar old charts indicated that hubby was overweight. It is also possible that the old charts may be found to be valid. The Canadian Weight-Height Survey will provide the factual basis on which this matter will be decided.<sup>1</sup>

There are many interesting examples of useful social surveys which have been conducted in the past.

One of the better known of these was made by John Howard (1726-1790), an English philanthropist and prison reformer. He assembled systematic and objective facts about the deplorable prison conditions of his time. He obtained his information directly from the prisons and prisoners. The usefulness of this survey is well described by Pauline Young,<sup>2</sup> "When he appeared in 1774 before a committee of the House of Commons and presented his field data with the authority and exactitude that only true facts can create, he won the full support of the committee and almost immediately an act was passed providing for the liberation of prisoners

—whose cases had already been dismissed by the grand jury—and for salaries for the gaoler from the county in lieu of the discontinued fees. Shortly thereafter another act was passed providing for regular prison inspection by the justices of the peace, who were to require periodic clean-

ing, repairing, and ventilation of the prisons, and systematic medical care for the sick inmates."

Most of the early surveys were made by social reformers, people who wanted and needed facts on which to base their struggles for solving some of the social problems of their day.

Charles Booth (1840-1916), an English statistician, originated the comprehensive study of modern community life through his investigations which were published in a series of volumes titled *Life and Labor of the People of London*.

The scientific study of family life, which is increasingly important in modern home economics training, had its beginnings in the social research carried out in France by Frederick Le Play (1806-1882) who was a social reformer and economist. It was Le Play who used the family as a basic unit of study. He lived in many French households, taking part in various family activities, while he systematically recorded and measured the diverse components of family life.

The factual data which he assembled and analyzed resulted in his proposal that the principles of Christian morality form the basis for sound economic and social organization and accordingly should be fostered. His proposal, while theoretically accepted by many people, has still to gain general application.

During World War II the importance of nutrition to both health and morale was clearly recognized. A knowledge of food consumption habits which had been gained by surveys before and during the war made it possible to plan ways to help correct some of the recognized dietary deficiencies which existed among both military personnel and civilians.

For many years "market surveys" have been carried on in Canada and other countries by market research groups, trade associations, advertising groups, government and other groups. Most of these surveys attempt to measure the markets for various consumer goods and to determine the effectiveness of marketing programs.

According to Dr. Mildred Parten,<sup>3</sup> market surveys are focussed on such problems as testing new products, ascertaining the attitude of consumers toward products already on the market, studying the potential demand for a product in a given field, gauging the unsatisfied needs of consumers, evaluating the methods by which products are distributed, discovering new uses for products, measuring the market of competing products, studying the nature of buying habits, testing consumer reaction to a product while it is being developed and before it is put on the market on a large scale, predicting consumer behavior, analyzing consumer tastes, conditions of usage and ways of using given products.

In Toronto alone there are at least six private "market research" agencies continually carrying on these surveys, the results of which are very rarely made public.

In some cases the results of market surveys are made public. A short time ago the loss of certain foreign markets for Canadian cheese caused many people to wonder whether more of this product could be sold here at home to Canadian consumers. Before any steps could be taken the problem was to find out what quantities of various types of cheese were consumed in specific ways by Canadians who lived in different parts of the country and who also differed in terms of sex, age, national origin, size of family, socio-economic level and in other ways.

To solve this problem a "cheese consumption survey" was carried out by the Economics Division of the Canada Department of Agriculture. This survey gathered facts about the types and quantities of cheese normally consumed by various groups of Canadians. When the facts were gathered, analyzed and reported a basis was provided for planning specific actions which could result in increased sales and consumption of this agricultural product.

One of the most widely publicized but often abused aspects of the survey is the public opinion poll. Among the hundreds of organizations all over the world which engage in public opinion polls the best known is that run by George Gallup. Some of the basic differences between polling and scientific surveying are that pollsters request the views of a heterogeneous mass of people on a certain definite question, and frequently report the

<sup>1</sup> A short illustrated article concerning this survey appeared in *The Star Weekly*, Toronto, Saturday, January 9, 1954, on page two of the Magazine Section, Number Two, under the title, *How Do You Rate in Weight?*, by Angela Burke.

<sup>2</sup> *Scientific Social Surveys and Research*, Pauline V. Young, Ph.D., Second Edition, Prentice-Hall Inc., New York, 1950, page 3.

<sup>3</sup> *Surveys, Polls and Semipoll*, Mildred B. Parten, Harper and Brothers, Publishers, New York, 1950, page 37.



## Lye Helps Many Ways In Farmhouse

There are dozens of ways in which lye speeds and eases work for the farmer's wife. Four of these are outlined below:

### CLOGGED DRAINS —

These are a nuisance, unsanitary, and if neglected will result in costly plumber's bills. To unblock bad stoppages, put 3 tablespoons of Gillett's Lye down drain, followed by a cup of hot water, allow to stand. Repeat if necessary. To keep drains free-flowing pour down two tablespoons of lye each week, followed by a cup of water.

### CLEANING STOVES

Lye is the natural enemy of greasy dirt that can gather and cake on and in stoves. To speed cleaning: scrub with a stiff brush and a solution of 2 tablespoons of lye to a gallon of water.

### OUTHOUSES —

Sprinkle in half a cup of Gillett's Lye once a week. Helps dissolve contents and remove odors. Scrub premises with solution of 3 tablespoons per pail of water. Keeps outhouses spotless, sanitary, fly-free.

### SOAP —

First quality soap can be made for about 1¢ a big bar with lye. For best directions, see the label on the Gillett's Lye tin.

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answers simply as the proportion of people who answered "Yes," "No," or "Don't Know." On the other hand, in scientific surveying a carefully selected sample of people representing a certain "population" is chosen; for instance, the population might be "all Canadians," or "all adult male householders" or "all professional home economists." Then whether one or a hundred questions are asked the answers are analyzed in view of certain basic characteristics of the people who supplied the information. By this process some understanding of the reasons for certain answers are obtained.

These basic differences between scientific surveying and polling are very easily demonstrated by an example drawn from the book *Say It with Figures*.<sup>4</sup> "In a survey of factory absenteeism, it was found that married women have a higher rate of absenteeism than single women:—the proportion of working days absent was 6.4 per cent for married women and only 2.3 per cent for single ones. In studying these figures the following explanation came to the investigator's mind: married women may stay away from work more frequently because they have more housework to do." To test this hypothesis a table was prepared showing the proportion of working days absent when marital status and amount of housework were taken into consideration. Zeisal reports, "This table indicates that the major increase in absenteeism comes from having more housework, not from being married; the absenteeism rate among married women is almost as small as that of single women, if both have little or no housework, and absenteeism among single women is almost as great as that of married women if they have 'a great deal' of housework."

Had this problem of factory absenteeism been handled simply by polling it is very likely that employers and other readers of poll results (seeing only the figures showing that a higher proportion of absenteeism was found among married than among single women factory workers) might make the logical but false assumption that, marriage itself was to blame for this condition. This in turn might have harmful effects on the chances of married women successfully competing with single women in a quest for factory work.

Although the matter of surveys and their uses has been touched on only briefly, sufficient has been presented to conclude with the thought that surveys, like the people and problems they help us understand, are of many types. The usefulness of each has to be judged on its own merits.

<sup>4</sup> *Say It With Figures*, by Hans Zeisal, Third Edition, Harper and Brothers, Publishers, New York and London, 1950, pp. 191-2 and 201.

Clean suede shoes with steel wool for a new look. Rub the soiled and shiny spots gently until they are suede-like again. Dust off with a small rubber sponge or soft brush. They will not need polish, ever.—L. V.

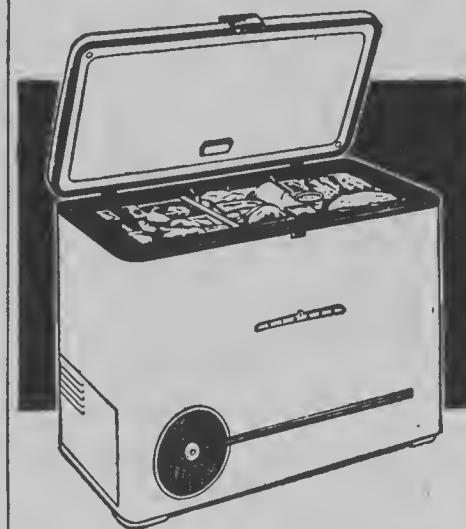
To teach little daughter how to set the table properly, cut a picture from a catalogue or magazine showing how it is done. Paste this on the cupboard door where she can see it while setting the table.—C. V. Tench.

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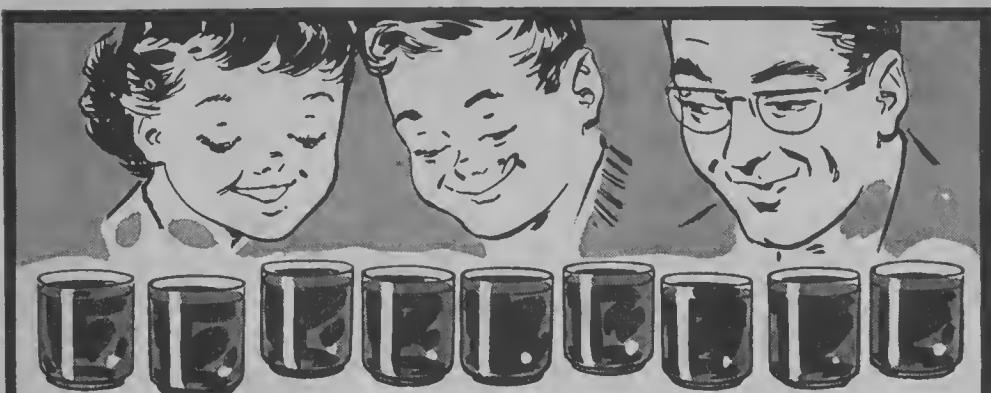
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**A** DESSERT that can be prepared in short order from your own home-made mix is the answer to the inevitable "What's for dessert?" problem this summer.

As the shortening is rubbed into the flour in advance it takes almost no time at all to make a hearty or simple dinner dessert. An upside-down cake that uses up any leftover fruit is easily and quickly prepared. A small amount of fresh fruit extends to servings for the entire family if made into a ready-mix shortcake and a hearty fudge or caramel pudding can be made in short order from the make-your-own mix.

Make the mix in quantity in advance. Use all-purpose flour and a high-quality shortening of the type that can be kept at room temperature. Store it in a covered container on the pantry shelf. It is ready for jiffy use during the summer months ahead.

### Make-Your-Own Mix

2 c. shortening	1 T. salt
9 c. sifted all-purpose flour.	1/4 c. baking powder

Use a high-quality shortening. Sift flour, salt and baking powder. Stir well. Sift again into a large pan. Add shortening; cut into flour mixture until of the coarseness of cornmeal. Makes 13 cups mix.

### Pineapple Upside-Down Cake

2 c. make-your-own mix (do not pack)	1 egg
3/4 c. sugar	3 T. butter
1/2 c. milk	1/2 c. brown sugar
1/2 tsp. vanilla	12 half slices pineapple

Blend butter and 1/2 c. brown sugar. Spread into 8-inch square pan. Arrange pineapple slices over sugar mixture to make a complete layer. Make a cake batter by blending the mix and sugar. Add milk and vanilla; beat. Beat egg well; add. Continue beating until well mixed. Pour over pineapple slices in pan. Bake at 350°-375° F. for 45 minutes. Cool slightly. Invert on cake platter while still warm. Serve with whipped or plain cream.

### Baked Fudge Pudding

1 1/2 c. make-your-own mix	1 tsp. vanilla
1/2 c. sugar	Topping:
2 T. cocoa	1/4 c. cocoa
3/4 c. chopped nuts	3/4 c. brown sugar
1/2 c. milk	1 1/2 c. hot water

Combine mix, sugar, cocoa and nuts. Stir in milk and vanilla. Mix to blend. Spread in greased pan 8 inches square. Combine cocoa, brown sugar and hot

water for topping. Pour over batter in pan. Bake at 350° F. for 40 minutes. Serves 8 to 9.

### Baked Caramel Pudding

1 1/2 c. make-your-own mix	3 T. butter
1 1/2 c. brown sugar	2 c. boiling water
1/2 c. milk	3/4 c. coarsely chopped nuts
2 tsp. vanilla	

Blend mix and 1/2 c. brown sugar. Add milk and 1 tsp. vanilla. Mix to blend. Spread 1 c. brown sugar over bottom of pan (7 by 11 inches). Dot with butter. Add 1 tsp. vanilla and boiling water. Drop dough by spoonfuls over this sauce. Sprinkle with nuts. Bake at 350° F. for 40 minutes.

### Apple Dumplings

2 c. make-your-own mix	4 pared apples
4 T. butter	1/4 c. brown sugar
1/4 c. hot water	1 tsp. cinnamon
	1/4 c. chopped nuts

Heat butter in water until melted. Sprinkle liquid over mix. Blend with spatula or fork. Turn dough out on waxed paper. Shape into ball. Knead three times. Chill at least 30 minutes in refrigerator. Roll out into 12-inch square. Cut into 4 squares of 6 inches. Place apple, pared and cored, in center of each pastry square. Stuff centers with mixture of sugar, cinnamon and nuts. Bring squares of pastry up over apple. Wet corners. Press together to seal. Place in greased baking pan. Bake at 375° F. for 35 minutes. Serve with cream. Serves 4.

### Individual Shortcakes

2 c. make-your-own mix	2 T. sugar
	1/2 c. milk

Blend mix and sugar. Add milk. Stir with fork until all mix is moistened. Turn onto board and knead six times. Roll out 1/8 inch thick. Cut into 3-inch rounds. Place 2 rounds together sandwich fashion on baking sheet. Bake at 425° F. for 20 minutes. Split open to serve. Fill and top with fresh sweetened fruit and whipped cream. Serves 4.

### Fruit Pancakes

1 c. make-your-own mix	5 eggs
1 c. milk	1 c. jelly, jam or sweetened fruit

Combine mix and milk in bowl. Blend thoroughly. Add 1 egg at a time and beat with rotary beater after each addition. Pour into hot 9-inch frying pan that has been rubbed with fat. Cook over low heat until slightly set on bottom and sides, then place in hot oven (425° F.) and bake for 25 minutes. To serve sprinkle lightly with salt and spread pancakes with jelly or sweetened fruit. Cut into wedges and serve hot. Serves 6 to 8.

# Summer Suppers

Temptingly cool and crisp man-sized salads  
beat the heat on hot summer days

DURING July and August while garden greens are at their best, cool, crisp salads will be the order of the day. Plan now to make the most of the compact heads of lettuce, tender spinach, radish, green onions, small, crisp cukes and tiny carrots.

For the main dish at supper a salad must be man-sized with plenty of satisfying proteins—eggs, meat or fish—included. Use your ingenuity in the choice of ingredients, vary the combinations often and season them well. Then keep the salad crisp by drying washed greens carefully, storing the ingredients in the refrigerator until time to serve and by adding the dressing at the very last moment.

Try to vary the salad dressings, too. Use a French dressing with tossed green salad for a change, serve sour cream dressing on cole slaw or lettuce salad, make an extra-special dressing by adding catsup, chopped pickle, and minced onion to mayonnaise and make your favorite tart boiled dressing to serve on the side with vegetable, meat and macaroni salads.

## Macaroni Bologna Mold

2 c. macaroni	1/2 c. hot water
1 envelope unflavored gelatin	1 can evaporated milk
1/4 c. cold water	1/4 c. diced green pepper
1/2 tsp. monosodium glutamate, if desired	1/2 c. chopped parsley
1/2 lb. bologna diced	1 T. grated onion
	1 1/2 tsp. salt

Cook macaroni in 1 quart boiling salted water until tender; drain and cool. Soften gelatin in cold water (2 1/2 c. rich milk may be used to replace water and evaporated milk if desired). Dissolve in hot water—or milk. Add macaroni and remaining ingredients; mix well. Spoon into oiled mold or individual dishes. Chill until firm. Unmold on salad greens. Garnish with tomato wedges and serve with mayonnaise or tangy dressing. Serves 6.

## Cottage Cheese Salad Bowl

1 large head lettuce	1 peeled tomato
1 c. carrots	1/4 c. French dressing
1 c. chopped celery	1 c. cottage cheese

Break lettuce into bite-size pieces and place in large salad bowl. Cut the carrot into very fine strips one inch long. Dice the tomato, chop celery. Toss vegetables lightly together. Add French dressing and salt and pepper to taste. Toss; refrigerate until serving time. Just before serving add cottage cheese and toss very lightly.

## Salad Julienne

1 c. ham	3 c. salad greens
1 c. chicken	1/2 c. crumbled cheese
1 c. cheddar cheese	Salt, pepper
1/4 c. dressing or mayonnaise	Mixed salad greens

Julienne the ham, chicken and cheese—that is slice, then cut in match-like strips. Toss together with finely chopped salad greens. Add dressing into which has been beaten the crumbled cheese. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Pack lightly into six custard cups; chill well. Unmold at serving time on a bed of mixed salad greens. Garnish with water cress. Pass salad dressing.

## Tossed Macaroni Salad

2 c. diced cooked meat	8 olives
2 c. cooked macaroni	1/4 c. chopped celery
1 tart pickle	1/4 c. French dressing
1 T. finely chopped onion	1/4 c. salad dressing

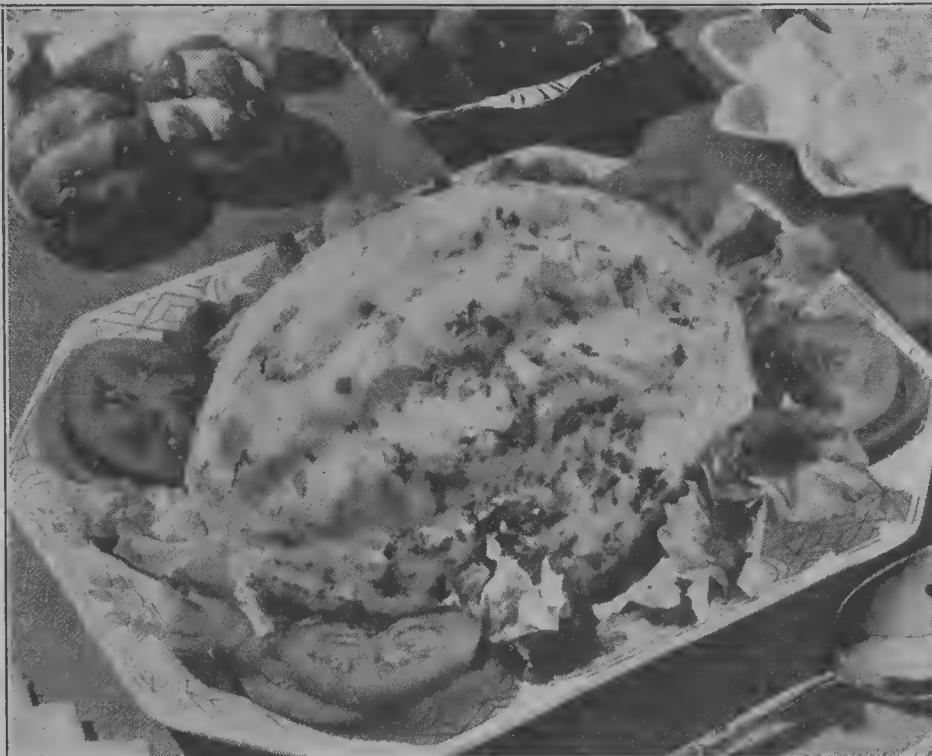
Combine meat, macaroni, pickle, onion and celery. Whip together dressings. Use fork to fold dressing into meat mixture. Taste. Add salt and pepper until well seasoned. Top with sliced olives. Chill one hour.

## Potato Salad Plate

2 c. potatoes	1/4 c. thinly sliced radish
1/4 c. minced celery	4 hard-cooked eggs
1/4 c. cucumber chunks	1 T. minced onion
4 slices cooked ham	4 slices pressed veal or other cold meat
1/2 c. salad dressing	

Cut cold cooked potatoes into cubes. Measure; add celery, onion and cucumber and radishes. Add dressing and toss. Taste. Add salt, pepper and more dressing if necessary. Chill well. Serve on individual plates on salad greens. Place 1 sliced egg and a slice of each meat on plate with each serving of potato salad. Pass tossed green salad. Serves 4.

(Please turn to page 48)



Molded macaroni salad makes a cool and satisfying main supper dish.

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## Lettuce-Tomato Salad

with the one and only

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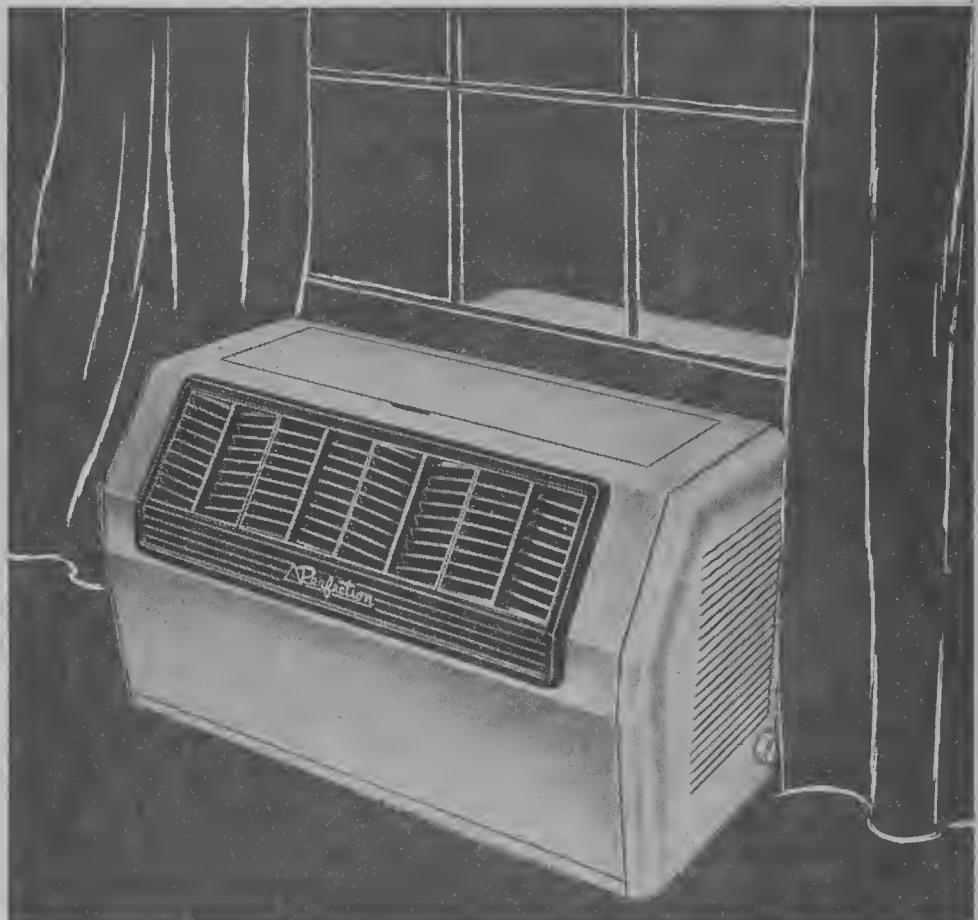
### LETTUCE-TOMATO SALAD

Cut a crisp lettuce into four. On individual salad plates, place the quarter lettuce and leaf lettuce, with a tomato wedge on each side. Tap with a generous serving of Miracle Whip Salad Dressing. You'll find Miracle Whip is equally delicious in cole slaw.

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### Many Island Dressing

1 c. mayonnaise	2 T. chopped celery
1 T. drained pickle relish	1 T. chopped parsley
1 T. chopped olives	2 tsp. catsup
	Dash of cayenne

Use mayonnaise or boiled dressing. Chop all ingredients very fine. Blend and chill. Serve with a molded fruit or vegetable salad or green side salad.

### Salmon Salad

4 tsp. lemon juice	1 1/2 c. diced apple
1 tsp. salt	3 hard-cooked eggs
4 tsp. salad oil	1/4 c. dressing
2 c. flaked salmon	
1 c. diced celery	

Combine lemon juice, salt and oil (or substitute French dressing). Mix salmon, celery and apple. Let stand in oil mixture for 20 minutes. Add coarsely chopped egg and dressing. Serve on beds of lettuce, garnish with carrot sticks.

### Stuffed Egg Salad

6 hard-cooked eggs	1 T. chopped onion
2 T. chopped chives	2 T. mayonnaise
	1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. dry mustard	

Cut eggs in half lengthwise and remove yolks. Combine yolks with chopped chives or parsley, onion, salt, mustard and mayonnaise. Stuff whites with mixture. Serve on lettuce with a little dressing on side. Serve with potato salad, tossed green salad or jellied salad.

### Jellied Meat Salad

3 1/2 tsp. gelatin	1 T. lemon juice or vinegar
3 T. cold water	1 c. chopped meat or poultry
1 c. hot broth or consomme	2 T. chopped celery
1 tsp. onion juice	2 T. sliced pimento
Salt to taste	
1/4 c. cooked vege- tables—peas, car- rots, beans, etc.	

Sprinkle gelatin on water and soak a few minutes. Dissolve in hot broth. Add onion juice, salt and vinegar. Chill until thick enough to hold solid food in place. Stir in meat, vegetables and pimento, if used. Pour into small loaf pan or individual molds. Chill until firm. Unmold on lettuce. Serve with tossed green salad. Serves 4.

### Useful Ideas

by BLANCHE CAMPBELL

When the tops of my nightgowns and slips wear out I turn them into dainty undergarments for my little girl by cutting off the worn parts and using the good portions to make panties or slips. I give them a personal, individual touch by adding a little lace or hand embroidery. She is prouder of these than the more expensive ones I buy.

When the fringe on baby's shawl becomes matted and tangled, the shawl may be made to look as good as it did when first new, by trimming off the fringe and binding the edges with satin ribbon. This refinishing will more than double the life of the shawl.

It is hard to place curtains on the stretcher without getting your fingers stuck. I use my thimble as a guard on my forefinger when pinning curtains on. This saves me from getting pricked on the stretcher tacks, and also makes for a faster job of pinning curtains on.

Save any old plastic tablecloth that comes your way for it is just the thing to make diaper protectors for baby. Cut pieces with pinking shears in the shape of baby's diaper and pin them along with the diaper.



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## Design No. CS-399

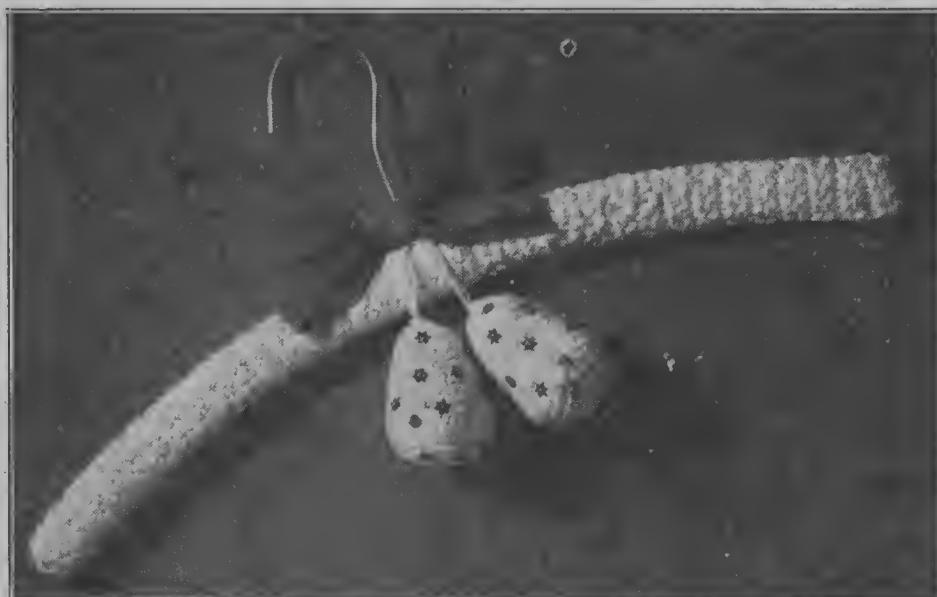
Add color to your table with attractive "whirligig" place mats. The design is easily made in squares using single and double crochet. Suggested colors are yellow and black. The pattern for matching glass jacket is included. Material required for set is 3 balls yellow, 2 balls black crochet cotton. Crocheted place mat set is Design No. CS-399. Price 10 cents.



## Design No. CPC-4772

You will enjoy making this pretty crocheted coat hanger and matching satchets. Inexpensive but attractive as gifts, bazaar novelties or bright new

touches for your own closet, they take but a few hours to make. They are of single crochet throughout. Materials required include 6 balls size 5 pearl cotton and crotchet hook No. 1. Hanger cover and satchet is Design No. CPC-4772. Price 10 cents.



When ordering be sure to give your name and address and pattern number. Address orders, including remittance, to The Country Guide Needlework Department, Winnipeg.



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## Highs and Lows in Picnics

*In spite of minor disasters, these informal gatherings are fun for all*

by ELIZABETH CONTENT

AUGUST is an ideal picnic month. But there's a charm about crisp autumn picnics, and certainly a bonfire at the skating pond takes a high place, not to mention the refreshing month of May when spring breaks softly forth. Picnics are for family or group gatherings; for young and old, for the middle-aged, and even for the ancient.

Picnickers may be divided into two schools of thought: those who like to throw in any provender at the last moment and stir it up on the scene of action; and those who like to prepare it at home and eat it leisurely outdoors. Needless to say, it's the young 'uns who like to throw it in, and the oldsters who prefer a few sandwiches and a cup of tea.

Of course no picnic is complete without a minor disaster of some sort. Someone always falls in the water. It may be paddling Butch who suddenly sits down and lets out a roar; or it may be daughter trying some new gymnastics; or Bill dropping into the lake from a tree branch; or even Dad, trying to scoop out some minnows. Somebody has to come to grief, so let it go at that.

There are, of course, other and worse disasters, such as slivers, broken glass, falls from trees, not to mention torn pants, and even broken eye-glasses or losing the car key. But after all, it's a picnic; something is bound to happen; so take along a first aid kit.

Then there are food disasters, which all good picnickers will admit can be serious indeed. For instance, the family dog can create havoc by coming up from the lake and deciding to shake himself around the prepared food. At one picnic I attended there was not a single item of cutlery, as the enthusiastic packer had never thought of knives and forks, although she remembered all the food. That was one of the most hilarious picnics I ever attended. We tore the chicken apart with our hands, somewhat in the manner of Henry VIII in his famous movie scene, broke off huge chunks of bread and spread the butter on with our thumbs while we stirred the tea with a twig. It all tasted fine.

Other incidents I remember were a sad picnic in which the coffee was forgotten; a meat dinner, completely tasteless because someone had forgotten the salt; pork and beans with no can opener. Another notable event was a bacon and egg breakfast in which the party appointed to bring the frying pan failed to turn up. We cooked the bacon on twigs, but were stumped with the eggs, as roasting them was not very successful.

There was also a calamitous picnic at which a most delicious looking cake was served. It turned out to be of most unusual flavor until finally it was traced to a whiff of fly spray that had been spread around the pantry where the cake reposed. Another gathering tried to dine off some grand baking powder biscuits until they discovered that alum had been used in mistake for baking powder.

At one exciting picnic a can of pork and beans was being heated on the

stove and suddenly exploded with a sound like the blast of a machine gun. It hit the cook in the eye, and when all the agitation had finally subsided not a single bean could be found anywhere. Each had vanished into thin air.

Over-zeal once provided an affecting casualty at a picnic. As no wood was available in this particular spot, kindling had been provided to make a fire for coffee. While some members of the party went away to get water, one enthusiast got the wood ready for the fire and applied a match, with the result that the wood was all burned up before the water arrived. Needless to say, his name was mud for the rest of the day.

IN summer you will find picnickers by streams, rivers or lakes, in woods, parks, river bottoms, in the mountains, even on the flat prairie if you live in the west.

Hours for picnics vary. Each hour has a special charm of its own. There's the real early picnic for the energetic, when they hike out to see a sunrise from a special vantage point, or to watch an eclipse. There's the breakfast party at a more reasonable hour, the noonday picnic, the afternoon tea for oldsters, the supper jamboree, and the midnight picnic such as a corn roast in the fall.

Of all those hours, give me breakfast time. For years it has been an annual affair at our house. We know a roaring creek, and a spot in the trees, and we get the crowd together and hike, heavily laden, early in the morning to the creek side. I can smell the coffee yet, and the bacon sizzling, and the burnt toast.

But the dinner picnic's not to be sneezed at, either. A brisk October day, when there's a tang in the air, is the time for one of these. And as for food, well, of course there's nothing like an old-fashioned mulligan. You boil up your vegetables and meat at home, take a good-sized cauldron along, and plenty of bread and butter. By the time the coffee's boiling and the bread buttered, the mulligan is hot, and it's just one helping after another when mulligan's in the air. Of course there are other grand hot dishes such as bacon and eggs, beef-steak and onions, or the good old hot dog. Another favorite of ours for fall used to be quantities of grapes and sweet biscuits, washed down with several cups of coffee.

It's a good idea to watch your location in choosing a picnic spot. Find a place that's dry, protected from the wind and sun, with few roots, and flat. Notice which way the wind blows so that you can make your fire with the smoke blowing away from the food. Many a fine picnic has been marred by billows of smoke pouring into the ice cream. Look out for ants, and don't spread your supper on an ant hill. One of our most memorable banquets was when several of us sat on a park bench eating sandwiches with our feet in an ant hill. It was a disastrous event.

When your picnic is over be sure the fire is completely extinguished—water is the best thing to use.

# Fun Fashions

that can be made in a morning, worn that same day

No. 4675—This simply made dress, styled to flatter the teen-ager, features a full gathered skirt, fitted bodice and shaped, wide, ribbon-trimmed neckline. Sizes 10, 12, 14 and 16 years. Size 12 requires 3½ yards 35-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4751—Easy-sewing, easy-to-wear whirl skirt and matching tote bag looks good in any fabric, with any blouse. The six-gore skirt flares to 130 inches. Sizes 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32-inch waist (12 to 20 years). Size 28 (16 years) requires 3½ yards 36-inch material, or 2½ yards 54-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4180—There are no buttonholes to fuss over, no gathers or pleats, and only three main pattern pieces in this cool-looking blouse with its tiny collar and short or three-quarter-length sleeves. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years and 40-inch bust. Size 18 requires 2 yards 35-inch, 1½ yards 39-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4695—The young man of the family will want to wear nothing but this shirt and short combination all during his holidays. Shirt has double yoke, pointed collar and two pockets; the shorts are elasticized at the waist. Sizes 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. Size 8 requires 2 yards 39-inch material for shirt and shorts. Price 35 cents.



No. 4754—A becoming, cool neckline, small sleeves and softly full skirt make up this simple-to-make girl's dress. Special instructions included for altering pattern for chubby sizes. Sizes 7, 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. Size 10 requires 3½ yards 35-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4661—A half-size fashion just right for shopping, visiting or home wear. So easy to make, there are no buttonholes, no pleats or gathers to fuss over. Bind neck and armholes, if you like, or apply a band and bow to the shaped neckline and add tiny sleeves. Sizes 12½, 14½, 16½, 18½, 20½, 22½ and 24½ (31 to 43-inch bust). Size 18½ (37-inch bust) requires 3½ yards 35-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4671—Trim this casual make-in-a-morning dress with a bright braid. Six-gore skirt flares to 115 inches. Bolero jacket is collarless with a brief extension of the bodice for a sleeve, has curved front and one loop at the neck for fastening. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 requires 5½ yards 35-inch or 3½ yards 44-inch material and 8½ yards novelty braid. Dress only requires 3½ yards, jacket 1½ yards 35-inch material. Price 35 cents.

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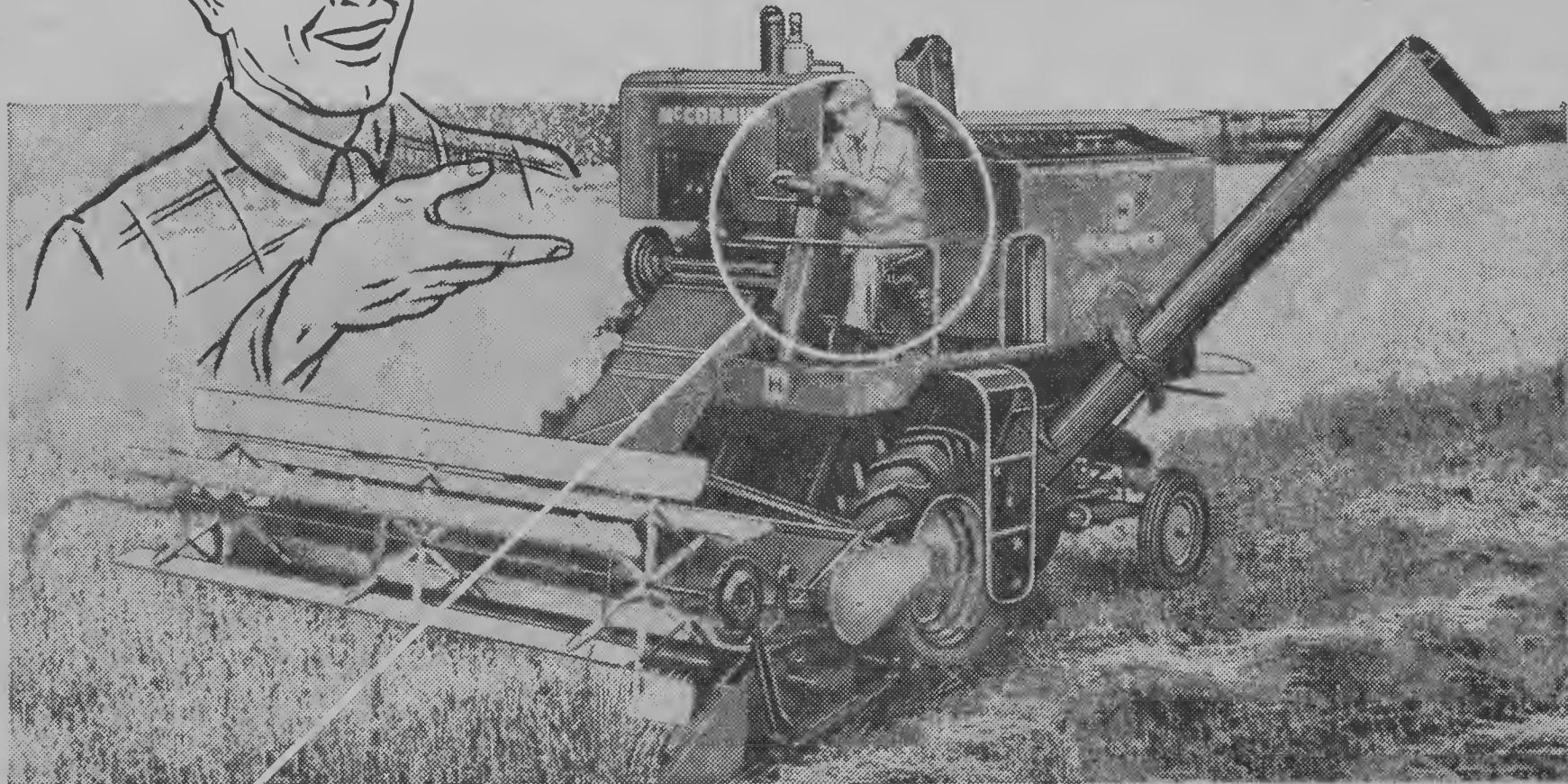
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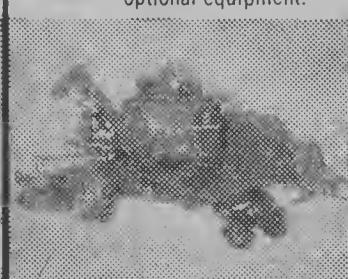
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# Agricultural Institute of Canada

*Thirty-fourth annual convention at Macdonald College, Quebec, has future food supply as theme*

"I THINK it can be said that, generally, periods of severe agricultural depression have had many evil consequences . . . have discouraged enterprise and initiative among established farmers . . . deprived the industry of its due share of able recruits . . . depleted capital . . . and hence led to a decline in productive efficiency; and finally have resulted in serious and sometimes irreparable damage to the soil."

The speaker was Sir James A. Scott-Watson, chief scientific adviser to the British Ministry of Agriculture and director of the National Advisory Service of the Ministry. His was the keynote address at the opening session of the 34th annual meeting and convention of the Agricultural Institute of Canada, which was held at Macdonald College of McGill University late last month. The theme of the plenary session was "Agriculture's Tomorrow." Sir James' approach to his subject was world-wide, and his conclusion was that world food production per head of population has again reached the prewar level with the aid of "accelerated progress in farming techniques . . . recovery from the effects of war . . . (and) . . . a coincidence of two successive favorable seasons over the greater part of the world's farm."

Also participating in the general session in the future of food supply was Dr. L. A. Maynard, head of the School of Nutrition, Cornell University, New York. He believed a large and strong animal industry to be essential for a prosperous agriculture in Canada and the United States. It helps to maintain the fertility and productive capacity of soils; it is the foundation of the family farm; provides a market for cereals and other crops, transforming these into foods of superior nutritive value; and it provides food reserves on the hoof for emergency needs. "The special nutritive values of animal products lie principally in the high quality protein, minerals and vitamins which they contain," said the speaker. "The fat of animal products is valuable chiefly as a source of calories which can be equally well supplied by the cheaper vegetable oils." Dr. Maynard also noted that, heretofore, milk has been marketed primarily on a fat basis, whereas the non-fat portion of milk is much more important, in terms of nutritive value, than the fat. "Butter," he said, "contains vitamin A not found in other fats, but . . . repeated studies have failed . . . to show any superiority of butter over margarine to which the same amount of vitamin A has been added. The unwillingness of the dairy industry to recognize these facts and their significance in terms of the butter market, has resulted in a serious situation for the industry, which could have been largely avoided."

Speaking of the future of world production of bread grains, especially wheat, T. J. Harrison, Director, Barley Improvement Institute, Winnipeg, said: "In my short lifetime there have been three scares that because of increasing world population the world would have to go on short rations; and three times the wheat growers

have built up burdensome surpluses . . . In my humble opinion there will be enough wheat to feed the world for the next 50 or 100 years. By that time scientists may have other means of producing food."

The Agricultural Institute of Canada is an organization of some 3,000 technical and scientific agriculturists organized in 26 branches across Can-

ada. Its members are all university graduates engaged in agricultural education, administration, research, extension, practical farming, and industry. Its purpose is to co-ordinate the efforts of those working on behalf of the agricultural industry, and to help to bring about closer co-ordination between professional agriculturists and farm organizations.

Within the membership there are nine groups of members interested in special aspects of agriculture, who are organized into sections and affiliated societies covering crops, livestock, horticulture, soils, agricultural engineering, agricultural economics, plant diseases, and agricultural chemicals.

These sections and societies meet during the convention and their combined output of technical and scientific papers at each annual convention numbers well over 100.

The organization publishes two periodicals, the Agricultural Institute Review and the Canadian Journal of Agricultural Science. The latter serves as the official Canadian medium for the publication of research results in farm science, and is published in co-operation with the Canada Department of Agriculture.

The Institute meets alternately in western and eastern Canada. The 1955 convention will be held in Edmonton. V

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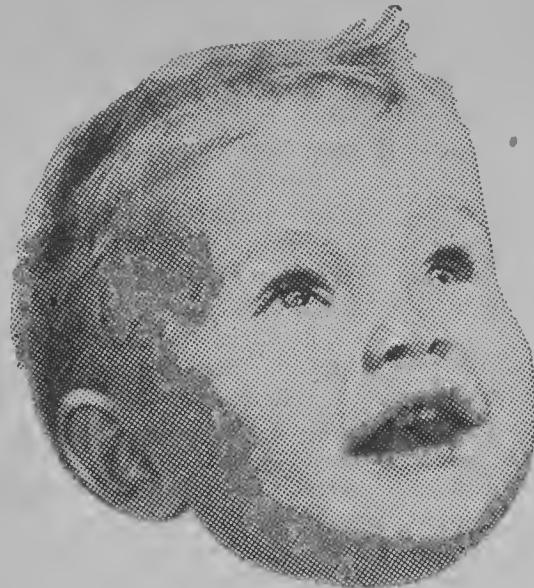
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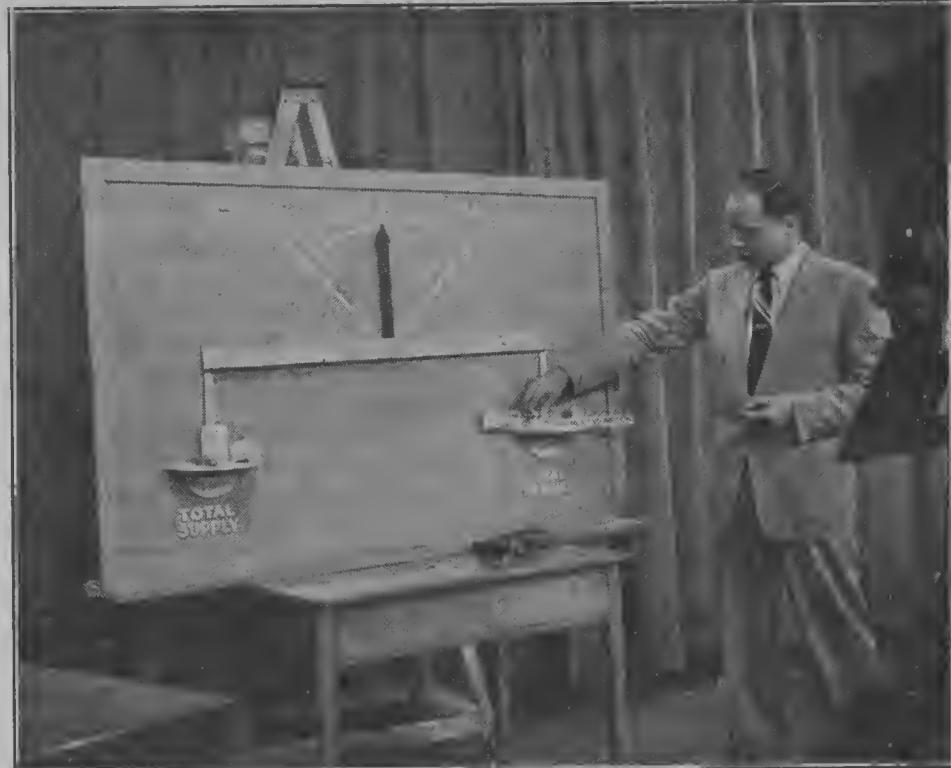
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[Bateman photo]  
Dr. Wallace Ogg, professor of agricultural economics at Iowa State College, illustrates the interaction of supply and demand for farm products, on TV.

## TV: Or Pigs in Your Parlor

*Continued from page 7*

between the interests and abilities of pupils."

WOI-TV also produces educational programs that are called teleclasses. These are educational courses given for credits at the College, and are restricted to those who have graduated from high school. Students must meet the College examination requirements to get credit, and must write exams once each term, at the College. An interesting point about these courses is that the 54 students who completed these teleclasses and learned by television this spring, actually got higher grades than the average of those who took the courses on the campus.

Dr. Ogg, whose special interest is public affairs, told us of a series entitled "The Whole Town's Talking" which was designed to stir up public discussion on important local topics in a number of Iowa small towns. WOI-TV took television to one town which needed a central water system. The voters had not been able to agree, even after trying three times. Finally, a television program was arranged, and after a great deal of difficulty, 13 citizens were persuaded to argue it out before the television camera. Four days later 95 per cent of the people went to the polls and voted nearly two to one for the water system. Similar programs were arranged in other places to discuss such questions as reorganization of school districts, the amalgamation of several small high schools, recreation in the town, the building of a county hospital, replacing an old court house, and other community problems. As a result, every community benefited either from the action that was subsequently taken, or from a thorough discussion of the subject.

**F**IVE different programs are produced directly for the farm population of Iowa, two of them daily and the other three, weekly. We were able to witness not only the rehearsal, but the actual presentation of the weekly half-hour program given every Monday night, known as "Farm

Facts." This program brings economic news, demonstrations of farm equipment and farm practices, and other topics of farm interest. On June 7, the guest of honor and central figure was Candytuft, a Jersey cow. Master of ceremonies, as in all these programs, was Dave Bateman, and the demonstrators were two Iowa State College professors, Dr. A. R. Porter, head of the Department of Animal Husbandry, and Dr. Floyd Arnold, extension professor of animal husbandry.

Although Candytuft herself remained in the WOI-TV studio industriously chewing her cud, she was at the same time effectively transported into thousands of farm and urban living rooms for 30 minutes, while the two professors went over her carefully from muzzle to tail, explaining as they went, all of the many points that go to make up the conformation of a Jersey cow. As their guiding hands reached her slender neck, sharp withers, level backbone, spreading ribs, and so on, accompanied by a steady flow of explanatory remarks, the cameras followed every move, shutting out every other part except the one under discussion, until, beyond any doubt, Candytuft became the most photographed cow in the United States that night.

Sitting in the sound-proof control room and listening to the urgent admonitions of the program director speaking now to one cameraman or the other, through earphones which each wore, or snapping out a quick "take" every once in a while to an assistant, to change the view to what one camera was now seeing, from what the other had been recording, was a most interesting and rewarding experience. Mr. Foster was watching the program out in the reception room, as would any farm family in the state. This writer, on the other hand, saw the same thing in miniature from the control room, and was able at the same time to see the live actors through the big glass windows, while listening to the eager words of the director, or watching the efficient action of the cameramen as they maneuvered their expensive movable equipment with perfect teamwork.

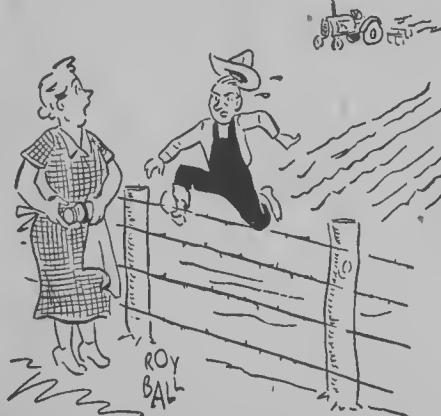
Marvin Anderson, associate director of the Co-operative Extension Service, put the virtue of TV in a nutshell

when he said that an extension agronomist might go 50 or 75 miles north of Ames some night to talk to 25 people, and the next night go on WOI-TV to discuss essentially the same subject before so many people that he could receive up to 1,000 queries from the program.

"TV can't do anything independently of what a county needs," said Professor Anderson. "If Dave Bateman wants to put on a corn production program and finds that, say, 20 counties think the subject important, he can go ahead. If a series will be useful each county can tie in if feasible, and organize listening groups. But TV displaces nothing. The county extension directors are busier than ever. Their telephones are busier. We have to send out more bulletins and printed material. As far as we can see, our radio stations have not been affected. Meetings have been hurt to some extent, but they are still necessary."

BEFORE we turned north again, we drove down to Des Moines to find out what the 140,000-member Iowa Farm Bureau Federation thinks of television for farmers. There we met President Howard Hill and Secretary Ken C. Thatcher. Both assured us that the Farm Bureau Federation is strongly behind the College, and enthusiastic about the value of TV to Iowa farms. The Federation is housed in its own seven- or eight-storey building and has four large plants throughout the State, from which it distributes large quantities of fertilizers and other farm supplies. It handled 60 million gallons of gasoline last year and does a large business in biologics, especially for the control of such diseases as hog cholera and erysipelas. Fertilizer sales last year were \$5 million. (Iowa, incidentally, used 14,000 tons of fertilizers in 1940, 420,000 tons in 1952, and 602,000 tons in 1953.)

About 100 miles north of Ames we stopped at Clear Lake, near Mason City, to visit a four-counties 4-H Club Camp. There we met several county extension directors, one of whom told us that the sentiment of businessmen in his town had changed completely during the last year or so. For a considerable time WOI-TV was alone in the central part of Iowa, but as private TV stations were established all around it, some sentiment developed favoring the idea that WOI-TV should pipe down and not compete with commercial stations. Recently, businessmen had voluntarily told him that they did not want anything to interfere with these farm programs. Anything that was good for the farmers of the State was good for them. V



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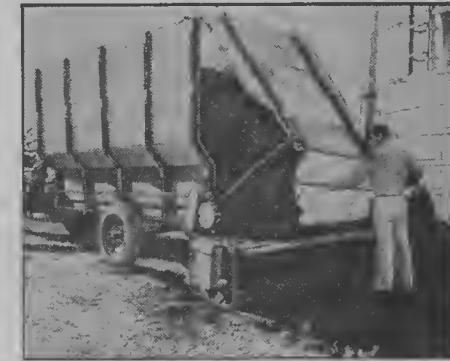
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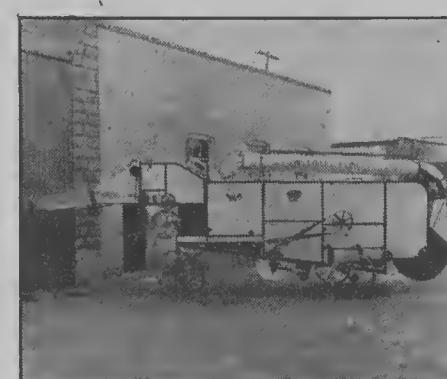
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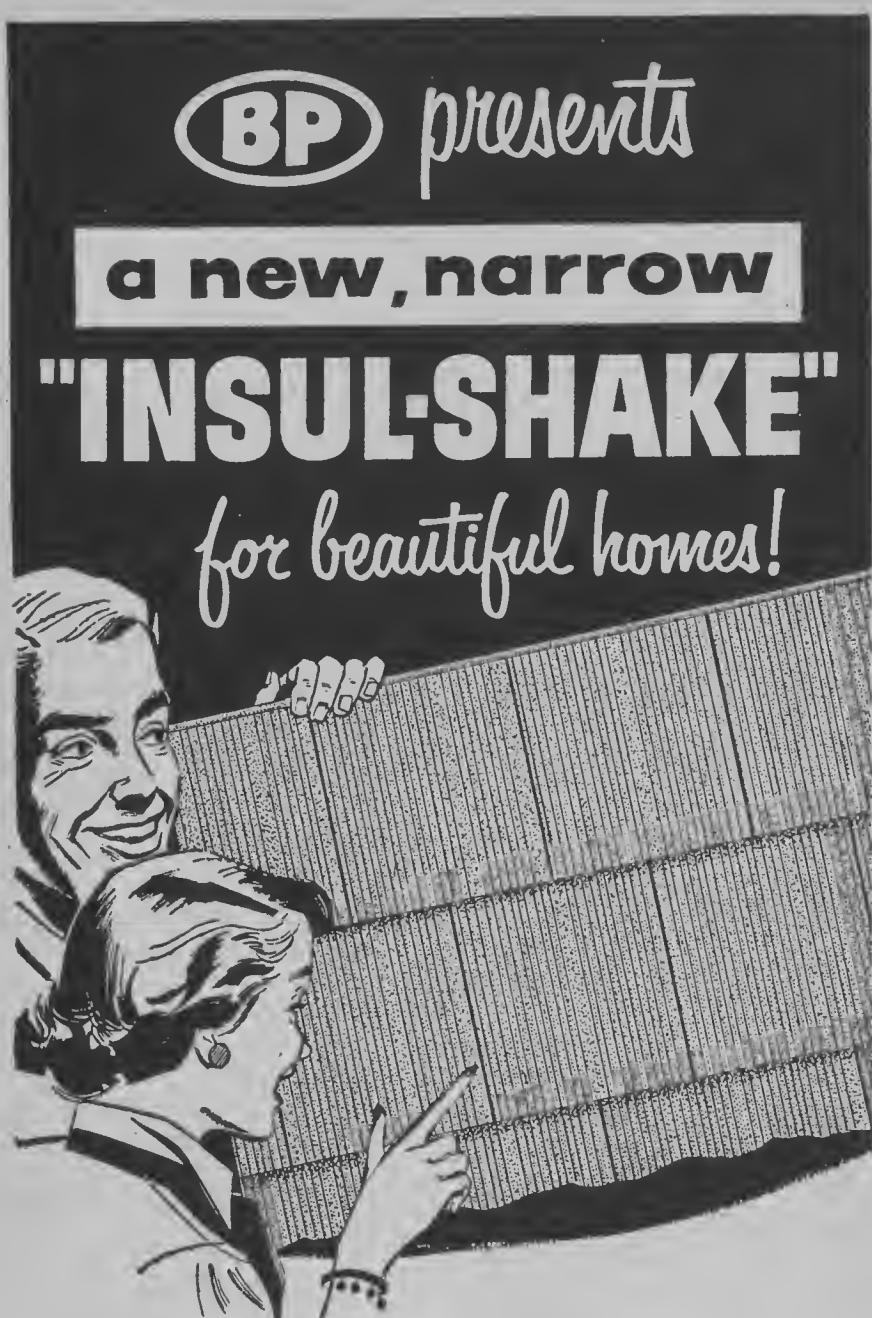
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## Notes from British Columbia

French vineyardist grows European wine grapes on Vancouver Island — new strawberry on trial

by C. V. FAULKNER

**Grape Grower.** Statistics show that 426 of B.C.'s 500 acres of commercial grape plantings are located in the Okanagan Valley and that 85 per cent of these are concentrated in the Kelowna district. But E. L. Girard of Nanaimo is a man who ignores statistics. He came to this country to grow grapes, and he chose a location on Vancouver Island.

Girard arrived in Canada from France in 1938. With him he brought a natural talent for grape growing obtained by inheritance, plus 35 years of practical experience in the family vineyards at home. The Girards have been growing grapes in the old land for generations. Knowing the exact set of conditions he wanted, the young immigrant thumbed through climatic records of the Canada Department of Agriculture. He soon narrowed his choice of location down to two areas—the Niagara Peninsula and southeastern Vancouver Island. The latter won out because conditions there appeared closest to those he was used to in France.

Once a suitable area was found, Girard carried the process a step farther by carefully selecting a vineyard site that promised optimum growing conditions for his vines. In his opinion, an ideal location is a southern exposure, protected on the north by a background of trees or hills. The soil should be light in texture, easily permeable to moisture, and have good underdrainage. To the grape man, stones are a help rather than a hindrance, he maintains, because they retain solar heat and keep the soil warm long after sunset.

Choice of varieties is another important feature in grape growing. The first variety grown in North America was the *Vitis labrusca*—very inferior to the European *Vitis vinifera* (wine grape). Hybrids of the two species have now been developed which combine the hardiness of the former with the rich, full flavor of the *vinifera*. The two main varieties in Girard's vineyard today are Campbell's Early and Niagara, but he is constantly experimenting with the other types.

Most of the 14½-ton average annual production of the six-acre Girard vineyard is sold to stores and restaurants as pasteurized grape juice. The fruit is processed with standard equipment, including a fruit crusher, a fruit press, pulp tubs, and copper boilers. Heat is supplied by a simple oil drum stove. The newly processed juice is aged for one year in a cellar beneath the Girard home before being put into attractively labelled 26-ounce bottles ready for shipment.

By a careful selection of varieties with an eye to improving grape quality, Girard believes that Vancouver Island growers could compete with the best of them. V

**Northwest Strawberry.** On trial in the Fraser Valley this year is the Northwest variety of strawberry. New plantings are said to number some 60 acres, of which about five acres will

be picked this season. The Northwest has won wide acclaim as a crate berry south of the border, and comprise about 30 per cent of the plantings in Washington State. Until the variety has proved itself in the valley, however, growers are warned to crop these initial plantings instead of using them to produce new planting stock.

"It's easy for a grower of a new variety to become over-enthusiastic and attempt to make a 'killing' by selling plants before the variety has been tested in the district," warns supervising horticulturist G. E. W. Clarke. "It is important to know how the Northwest behaves here before it is scattered throughout our large commercial plantings of British Sovereign."

There are very good reasons for taking this attitude with any new variety introduction, including the Northwest. For one thing, the latter is a known virus carrier. It would be foolish to endanger the well-established British Sovereign plantings until it is known how they react to this virus complex carried by the new variety. Again, the Northwest stock now in the valley is relatively poor and will not meet certification requirements. It would be wiser to crop present plantings and bring in the very best foundation stock, said to be made available in the United States next year.

In the Northwest's favor is its yielding ability and its resistance to the degenerative effects of virus. One Washington grower, located right along the international border, obtained seven tons to the acre last year and his loss through rot was negligible. That same year his Canadian neighbor picked four tons of Sovereigns per acre, and lost two of them to rot. In flavor and appearance, however, the Northwest is no match for the British Sovereign—in foodstuffs that's a big drawback. As one grower put it, "big yields aren't much use if the things don't taste like strawberries."

Will the Northwest variety replace the British Sovereign? Not a chance. To date the latter has no serious rival in sight.

Answer to yield problems facing the Fraser Valley industry, say the specialists, is better soil conditions, careful plant selection, and improved cultural methods. At least one valley grower has followed this advice and reports Sovereign yields up to seven tons per acre. Who says the British Sovereign is through! V

**New Milk Distributor.** A big new milk distributor has entered the Vancouver milk shed. Last month the provincial government finally approved the application of Lucerne Milk Company, a Canada Safeway subsidiary, to set up a processing-distributing plant and compete with other Vancouver milk firms in the store sales market. It is expected the new plant will be in operation in about four months. V

# The Country Boy and Girl

**W**E wish you could have been with us as we watched a Saulteaux family at Lac du Bois working together on a birch bark canoe. The birch bark sheets had been cut from twelve-inch trees, the canoe maker cut a straight line down the trunk of the tree, then peeled off the bark about one-eighth of an inch thick. The spruce root, which is used to stitch

the pieces of bark together, had been boiled, then the bark peeled off and the root split into two long strips. These strips were left in water until needed as they harden quickly in air. The ribs, keel and canoe forms had been split from spruce and bent into shape while wet.

Now the canoe maker is ready. On the ground a platform roughly the shape of a canoe is made of earth and on this platform the canoe will be built. Wooden stakes are stuck upright around this platform and the birch bark pieces are laid into this rough shape, then a skeleton wooden form is laid in the bottom of the canoe and weighted with stones. Now with edges overlapping generously the pieces of birch bark are stitched together with the spruce root. A second wooden frame is now placed at the top of the canoe and the birch bark is bent up and tacked to it. Next the gunwale is sewn in place, the end keels fitted and the ends of the canoe closed. All the seams will be carefully sealed with hot pitch made of spruce gum and moose fat.

When the canoe is launched it will sail lightly on the water like an autumn leaf, taking its owner and his family safely down rushing rivers and over foaming rapids. The birch bark canoe is a thing of beauty and strength.

Ann Sankey

## Twelve Thirty

by Mary Grannan

THIS story is about a little dog, whose name was Twelve Thirty. He was a friendly little dog, who lived as best he could, by scrounging in garbage pails, in lanes, alleys, city dumps and back yards. He had no name, until he met the men down at the factory, and it was through Mrs. Pigeon, that this had come about.

"It's too bad," said that lady one day, "that a nice little dog like you has to scrounge all the time. If you had a home, you would get regular meals. A nice little dog, who keeps himself so clean and fresh, deserves regular meals."

The little dog nodded. "I'd like to have regular meals, Mrs. Pigeon. I met a terrier the other day, and he told me that every day when the clock struck twelve, his mistress filled his blue dish with something special, just for him. Mrs. Pigeon, do you know where I could get something special when the clock strikes twelve?"

"No, I don't," cooed Mrs. Pigeon. "But I'll fly around and see if I can find such a place for you."

Mrs. Pigeon spread her wings and flew away. She searched diligently all morning, for a home for the little dog, without success. At twelve thirty, when she was walking about in her red boots, outside a large building, a shrill whistle blew. Mrs. Pigeon was startled, and flew across the lawn to discover the cause of the din. As she did, she saw a great many men pouring out of the building. They settled themselves in groups, and each man opened a box, or pail, and began to eat from it.

One of the men tossed some crumbs to her. She ate them, gratefully, and flew back to the little dog. "I have found a place where you can get regular meals, little dog. It's not a home, mind you, but all the men eat at exactly twelve thirty, when the whistle blows. Follow me, tomorrow."

When the factory whistle announced the lunch hour the next day, the little

dog and the pigeon were waiting. "There you are," said the bird as the men filed out. "It was the men under the oak tree that gave the crumbs to me. They look as if they'd be kind to a little dog."

They were. When the little dog went up to them, wagging his stubby tail in a friendly manner, one of them said, "We have guests, Bill. Do you think we should share our sandwiches?"

"Yes, Jim, I do," said Bill. "He's polite and friendly. Here, fellow, catch."

The little dog enjoyed both the food and the company. Each day after that, he sat outside the factory, waiting for the twelve thirty whistle. He was so prompt, that one of the men named him Twelve Thirty. The little dog liked his new name, almost as much as he liked his friends.

"I wish I could do something for them, Mrs. Pigeon," he said one day. "But there's nothing I can do."

"Perhaps if you learned a few tricks, they would be pleased," said Mrs. Pigeon.

"But I don't know about tricks. Where could I learn them?"

"At the circus," said the ever wise Mrs. Pigeon. "I saw some performing dogs down there the other day. I'll take you there."

The dogs were poodles. Twelve Thirty watched every twist and turn those dogs made. He knew that he was not capable of many of their stunts. It had taken months of training, before the poodles could accomplish these tricks. But the somersaults and the dancing came easily to Twelve Thirty. He left the circus tent full of determination. He worked all afternoon perfecting his tricks.

The next day at the lunch hour, by some streak of good fortune, Jim carried a portable radio out under the big oak tree. He turned it on as soon as the men settled down to eat. Twelve Thirty's tail wagged so steadily during the luncheon chatter, that Jim laughed and said, "Twelve Thirty, if you had a

sleeve, I'd say that you had something up it."

Twelve Thirty did. He was waiting until the men closed their lunch pails and boxes. Then he began to dance. The men laughed and applauded loudly. He turned triple somersaults, leapt, twirled, and he twisted. The men became so interested that they did not hear the one o'clock whistle, calling them back to work.

An angry foreman came to the oak tree at ten minutes past the hour. He ordered Twelve Thirty off the premises and told him not to return. With sagging tail, Twelve Thirty slunk away. But he had no intention of staying away. He came back the next day, and the next and the next.

It was on Friday, however, when the truck came with the payroll for the men, that Twelve Thirty had his real chance to prove his gratitude. Just as the messenger pulled the bag of money from the truck, two masked men jumped from behind the cedar hedge, and with guns pointed, demanded the payroll. Twelve Thirty sensed that something was wrong, and took a flying leap at one man. Both were so taken by surprise that they dropped their weapons. Twelve Thirty

seized the man by the trouser leg. The other tried to get away, but was caught by the workmen. A few minutes later the culprits were in a patrol wagon.

The foreman came hurrying out of the building. "What's going on?"

Bill said, "Twelve Thirty saved the payroll and caught the holdup man."

The foreman looked at the little dog. "So," he said, "you came back, after I told you to keep away from here? Well, it's a good thing you did. Boys," he said, turning to the men, "what would you say to keeping Twelve Thirty here as our watch dog? He could live in the night watchman's quarters."

The men thought it a wonderful idea. Twelve Thirty had a home at last. He went to tell Mrs. Pigeon.

## Pigeons

When skies are clear and blue,  
And the sunlight's warm,  
Our pretty pigeons flew  
Round about the farm.  
Circling, circling, circling,  
Black, and grey, and white,  
Tiny planes awinging  
Lovely dipping flight.

—EFFIE BUTLER.

## Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors

No. 29 in series—by CLARENCE TILLENIUS



WHY does the simple word "perspective" so often baffle the amateur painter? The meaning of the word is easy to grasp. Essentially the principle is this: objects look smaller as they are farther away.

However, as with so many simple propositions, it is not quite so easy to put into practice. When you say "things seem smaller as they are farther off," the first question is, "How much smaller, supposing you are drawing a scene out of your head?"

Now there are complicated mechanical rules for working out the answer to this question. You may never need to know them if you simply practise looking at things around you and measuring one against the other with your eye.

An easily understood method of drawing in perspective is by comparing the size of two men of equal

height, one standing near you and the other farther off. If you are also standing, and if they are about your height, their heads will be on a line with your eye. If you are all standing on flat prairie, the heads of the other two men will also be on a level with the horizon.

Fix this point in your memory: "The horizon is always on a level with my eye, wherever I am standing or sitting." Once you know this thoroughly, you begin to study objects in the landscape. Are they *above* or *below* the horizon line of the landscape—and *how much*?

Some artists speak of the "bird's eye-view"—where you look down on the scene, the horizon being high in the picture. Or again they speak of "the toad's eye-view"—where every object in the picture projects above the horizon, which is low in the picture. You must decide which yours is to be, and to sketch accordingly.

# THE Country GUIDE

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THE NOR'-WEST FARMER and FARM and HOME  
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VOL. LXXIII

WINNIPEG, JULY, 1954

No. 7

## Alberta's Special Areas

FEW extensive areas of land suitable for agriculture are to be found anywhere that have uniformly high productivity. Certainly, in the three prairie provinces, the problem of marginal land has been admitted, if not properly recognized, for many years. Official recognition of such marginal areas in Alberta goes back more than 30 years and took semi-permanent form 12 years ago, when some 56 townships in the east-central portion of the province were set aside as special areas, under The Special Areas Act of the Provincial Legislature, passed in 1942. Under this legislation these areas were placed under the jurisdiction of a Special Areas Board, responsible to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

The intent of the Special Areas Act was to promote the development and conservation of available natural resources within these areas, to the end that the income of farmers living in them might be given some measure of stability. The special areas were taken outside of municipal and improvement districts, and residents therein were given certain compensating privileges. Though denied the privilege of self-government and the opportunity of owning large acreages of land, they nevertheless possessed the use of land, along with security of tenure and a maximum proportion of the returns from the land, without the necessity of hazarding capital by investment in land.

A year ago last March the government appointed a committee to consider the results of special areas administration and to give consideration to the basic problem involved. This problem is directly related to the relatively thin, "burn-out" soil, which overlays an impervious layer that limits the ability of the topsoil to retain moisture and provide ample nourishment for strong-growing crops. Some months ago the committee made a preliminary report. In it the way is pointed to a more competent and sensible development of the potentialities of these areas. These appear to have been left, until two years ago, without "any serious attempt made to determine the possibilities of modifying the under layer by mechanical means or cultural practices." Only then was a soil investigational substation established under the joint supervision of the Alberta Research Council and of federal authorities, which already "is giving some encouraging evidence." Thus, despite the fact that these areas have been recognized as providing special problems for more than 30 years, the degree to which the soils of the areas are really marginal for agricultural purposes has not been determined. This information, the committee reported, "is fundamental to the intelligent development and rehabilitation of marginal lands within the area and similar lands elsewhere in the province."

The problem represented by these areas is not unlike other problems having to do with land and water resources, which have been carelessly, or inadequately dealt with by most provincial governments in the past. There are, fortunately, signs of a change. Saskatchewan, a few years ago, made the break and decided to put all agricultural land under the administration of a department that was supposed to know something about agriculture. Manitoba very recently has shown signs of an awakening, and of a desire to move in the same general direction. The Alberta interdepartmental committee, while recommending the responsibility of self-government for residents of the special areas, where feasible, suggests the establishment of a provincial land utilization commission, under the Minister of Agriculture, and urges that the authority contained in the Special Areas Act, relating to land use, rehabilitation, conservation, reclamation, and other

matters primarily of agricultural significance, be vested in the Minister of Agriculture. Surely the government will do no less than accept the latter recommendation. V

## A Canadian Meat Council

FOR some years the idea of a national organization in the interests of the livestock industry has been carefully nurtured among a group of western livestock producers, especially the more foresighted members of the Western Stock Growers' Association. The idea took form a few years ago, when the Canadian Council of Beef Producers (Western Section) was brought into being, with the intention—among other matters of national importance to beef producers—of inaugurating a program which would publicize, among consumers, the high-protein food value of beef. Money for such a program was an effective stumbling block—a not unusual circumstance where joint farm action is involved.

More recently, the idea has been developed of making a small deduction from the price of all cattle sold, which has crystallized into a fixed idea of five cents per head on all market cattle, except calves.

Cattlemen everywhere seem to have viewed the suggestion with favor. Organizations of cattlemen across the prairies and in Ontario, have approved the suggestion. In recent months the idea has been expanded to include other red meats as well, the program to be managed by an organization which will be known as The Canadian Meat Council. A provisional constitution has been drawn up and some of the provisional directors appointed. The principle of such an organization was approved at the last annual meeting of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture.

Earlier this year, it was hoped that the deductions, and subsequently the accumulation of a fund for publicizing the value of meat, might have begun in May or June. However, the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, having endorsed the principle of a Canadian meat council, appears to have placed itself in the position of blocking further progress, for the present at least. Opposition appears to be based largely, if not entirely, on the ground that participation of the meat packing industry with producers, in the publicizing of meats, is undesirable.

It would seem to us that this ground is ill-chosen indeed. The packing companies exist because of the demand from consumers for meat, and from producers for a market for the live animals they have produced. If there is any place where the interest of producer and packer are identical, it is at the point of consumption. If one of the problems of the farmer is to develop an increased intelligent interest in his product, surely it is also a problem of the packing industry. Co-operation in this matter between the producer and the meat packer would seem to be not only logical, but necessary, in the interests of a co-ordinated program, and of economy. The C.F.A. could well take care that it does not advise livestock producers contrary to their own interests. V

## Commission Report Delayed

THE report of the Saskatchewan Royal Commission on Agriculture and Rural Life, which was scheduled to appear this month, will now be delayed until late fall and early winter. This announcement last month by the chairman, W. B. Baker, will have been received with disappointment by many. It will no doubt be felt most keenly by those individuals and organizations who, whether on a community, provincial, or professional level, were involved in the work of the Commission.

Those who have attempted to follow the work of the Commission more or less closely, and have come to appreciate the size of the task it faced, will readily applaud the decision taken. A longer period will now be available for deliberation and wise consideration of the twelve major aspects into which the main problem has been divided. The Commission will, we feel sure, be rewarded by proportionately greater respect for the conclusions and

recommendations which are ultimately to be announced. An interim report on Crown land settlement in northeastern Saskatchewan was issued in January. There remain, however, in addition to nine basic reports already prepared,—on farm credit, land tenure, markets and prices, trade centers, mechanization and farm costs, crop insurance, education, rural homes, and movement of people,—further work on the problems of local government and of underemployment, and the important task of fitting everything together into the final recommendations of the Commission. Charged with the production of a blueprint for the development of Saskatchewan agriculture over the next 25 years, the Commission may well be given two years or more from October, 1952, the date of its appointment, to complete its impressive task. V

## The Failure of FAO

THE secretary-general of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) recently compared some of the conclusions reached by the seventh session of FAO at Rome last fall, with those reached at the Quebec conference in 1945, and described the experience as "an interesting if somewhat depressing exercise."

Commission I reported what the secretary-general regarded as the keynote of the conclusions reached by the 1953 conference when it said: "It is obvious that policies pursued without close consultation can lead to a difficult situation." Mr. Savary is more direct. He says: "The fact that incoherent policies have again led to an accumulation of surpluses and to threats to the farmers' real income, is but proof that FAO has not fulfilled its mission." He recalls that Commission A at the Quebec conference nine years ago, reported that "if . . . the problem . . . (production and distribution) . . . could be analyzed jointly in terms of production and of consumption, solutions could surely be found which would further the well-being of (producers and consumers). This, FAO is designed to do."

The problem that has bedevilled seven sessions of the United Nations agency which was designed to solve it, exists because producers and consumers all over the world, are, after all, people—with widely differing abilities, understanding, wealth and good will. Individuals can not act as such, in any close consultations that may develop: they must act through their governments, whose power exists only because the electors—producers and consumers—have favored their policies over those of all other groups seeking the right to govern. In their turn, those who govern differ widely in abilities, understanding and good will; and when they meet around an international conference table, they speak for countries representing an equally marked variation in conditions and outlook.

Nevertheless, for a solution of the problems of world production and the distribution of foodstuffs, which are the increasing concern of many people, we must still depend on our governments. This means international discussion and organization, which, even though supported by good will, takes a great deal of time. Schemes for the establishment of buffer stocks of food to be controlled by international agencies have been put forward, but so far have not been acceptable. We seem to be caught up in a confusion of events and of ideas that are strange to us; and to lack the power to act as men and nations of good will. The consequences of failure to learn how to be international good neighbors may well be calamitous.

Meanwhile, except for localized emergencies, there is little prospect that give-away food programs are likely to, or in fact could, assuage much of the world's hunger. Sooner or later, underdeveloped countries must learn to produce most of the food they need, or to produce other goods which they can trade for food. This alternative reaches over into the area of foreign trade policies, and on, like ripples on the water, to our standards of living and our production efficiency. Eventually, it reaches the core of our democratic belief and becomes a testing ground for our willingness to be democratic toward those outside, as well as within our country. A more or less permanent solution to the twin problems of food production and distribution is still afar off. V